

## NEWS SUMM

## BUSINESS

## Second defector death probed

### Gold Mines index down 5.5

Bulgarian broadcaster Vladimir Simeonov, 30, who defected in 1971 when visiting London as a tourist, was found dead in his East London home, the BBC World Service Radio announced in London last night.

Scotland Yard detectives were treating the death as suspicious, after the recent death of another Bulgarian defector, George Markov, who died after complaining that he had been stabbed with an umbrella. Scientists later found a metal pellet in his body.

Mr. Simeonov worked as a programme assistant in the Bulgarian section of BBC External Services. Police said there was as yet no indication of how he died.

#### Bridge blown up

Guerrillas blew up a bridge on the main road between Salisbury and the South African border. Rhodesia's transitional Government banned the black daily newspaper, the Zimbabwe Times, "in the interests of public safety and security." Page 3

#### Royal tour

Princess Margaret arrived in Sydney, Australia, to recuperate from a high fever which caused her to miss Tuvalu's independence celebrations. It has not yet been decided whether she will continue her tour to the Philippines and Japan.

#### Italian kidnapped

The son of a wealthy Milan builder was kidnapped by four gunmen as he left his home. Augusto Rancilio is Italy's 27th kidnap victim this year. Italian security forces. Page 5

#### Campaign launch

The Government launched a large-scale campaign to catch the one million people who evade buying television licences. Home Office Minister Lord Harris said there were 50,000 successful prosecutions in the year, carrying a maximum fine of £200.

#### UDR officer shot

A part-time UDR officer was shot and critically wounded at a Newry cattle market, Co. Down. In Belfast, a soldier was slightly injured in a booby trap bombing in the Republican Falls Road area.

#### Floods hit Rome

Large areas of Rome were flooded as torrential rains swept the city, reducing the crowds of mourners waiting outside St. Peter's Basilica to see the body of Pope John Paul I.

#### Stabbing theory

An elderly woman who died of natural causes on a coach going to Scotland, and was then found to have stab wounds, may have been attacked as her body lay in the mortuary of the Royal Lancashire Infirmary, Lancaster, police said.

#### Bush fire spreads

A bush fire fanned by high winds raged out of control near the southern edge of Hobart, Tasmania, and some 300 families were preparing to evacuate the area.

#### Arrest threatened

Soviet-born Nikolai Sharygin, the former London businessman released after 10 years in Soviet labour camps, said in Moscow that he was being threatened with re-arrest unless he accepted Soviet identity papers.

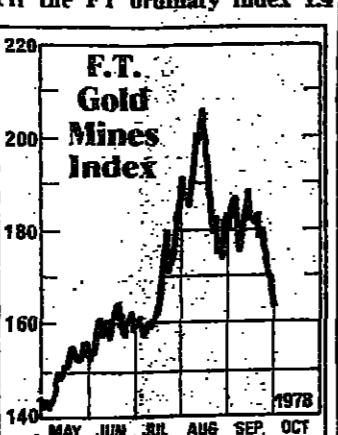
#### Briefly ...

Engineer Barry Haddow of Gwent who travels 342 miles a day to work in London, was named as the Commuter of the Year by BBC disc jockey Tony Brandon.

#### Woman burned to death

Woman burned to death in front of the United Nations Palace in Geneva.

Youth was arrested in Turkey after admitting murdering the Austrian envoy's wife and daughter.



## HEALEY HINTS AT 'FISCAL AND MONETARY' PACKAGE

# Cabinet likely to defy pay vote

BY RICHARD EVANS, LOBBY EDITOR

MINISTERS may take deflationary measures to maintain the counter-inflation strategy if the pay guidelines are broken following the Government's massive Labour Party conference defeat yesterday at the hands of the trade unions.

This was the uncompromising attitude adopted by senior Ministers last night as they tried to come to terms with a day that may end Labour's hopes of retaining power at the next General Election.

Mr. Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said on BBC Television's *Panorama* that the conference defeat on pay, by a majority of more than two to one, would make the counter-inflation policy more difficult to achieve.

"And we may have to rely on fiscal and monetary policy."

But, underlining the severity of the political and economic difficulties facing the Government, he added that this would

have an adverse effect on employment, an awesome prospect for a Labour Government before an election.

Mr. James Callaghan, still determined to continue in office despite the loss of support for his pay policy by the trade unions, will outline the Government's views in more detail when he addresses the conference today.

The initial signs are that he intends to stand firmly by the Government's 5 per cent guideline for the time being at least, though there are signs that Ministers are thinking in terms of greater flexibility.

An olive branch in the form of an offer of an early meeting with the TUC is being planned, with the promise that if the unions can produce a better means of combating inflation, Ministers will listen. Until then, the present policy stands.

On Sunday night Mr. Callaghan met senior union leaders and is visibly chastened last night by

the severity of the defeat inflicted on their own Government, is how hard to push the onslaught on the Government's pay norm.

Ministers accept privately that the guideline is particularly at risk in the private sector.

The defeat, by more than two to one, came at the end of an absorbing three-hour debate that centred on a hardline resolution totally rejecting any wage restraint, and calling on Labour's national executive to organise a campaign against control on wages.

With the Transport and General Workers' Union, the engineers, miners, public employees and some others of the TUC, the party leadership.

Despite the impassioned pleas of Mr. Healey and Mr. Foot, and a brilliant intervention in support of restraint from Mr. Sid Weighell, leader of the National Union of Railways, the resolution was accepted.

Delegates, in an increasingly militant mood, then went on to reject a resolution supporting

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Terry Kirk  
Mr. Callaghan yesterday: an unexpectedly heavy defeat

## Manufacturers 'plan 9% investment boost'

BY DAVID FREUD

AN INVESTMENT surge by manufacturing industry is now thought to be under way and is expected to bring industry's capital expenditure this year to a record level.

The latest survey of investment intentions from the Department of Industry, published yesterday, shows that manufacturers plan to increase capital spending in the second half of this year by 9 per cent compared with the first half.

This rise—equivalent to more than £600m at current prices—will be driven by resources of banks inhibited by the official "corset" restrictions on credit.

While manufacturing industry has priority for loans, the increase in its demand for finance suggested by its investment plans is likely to mean further restrictions on loans to other non-priority borrowers.

The last time there was such a large increase over such a short period was in 1965, when investment by manufacturers rose 9.7 per cent from one six-month

period to the next.

The latest survey, carried out between the end of July and mid-September, estimated that man-

ufacturing investment this year would be 10.1 per cent above survey, also published yesterday, which reported a pick-up.

The confederation stressed that the emphasis in capital expenditure was on expanding capacity and improving productivity.

The Department of Industry found that investment planned by distributive and service industries in this year was 8 per cent to 9 per cent above last year's level, compared with the 8 per cent to 8 per cent found in the previous year.

The year-on-year rise for 1979 was expected to be smaller, as it was in previous surveys. The latest inquiry put a figure on the increase for the first time, of between 4 and 8 per cent.

The second-half burst in manufacturing investment comes after a very sluggish first half. Between January and March, investment actually dropped 3 per cent below the level of the previous three months.

In the first half as a whole, manufacturing investment was only 3 per cent above the previous six-month total. For the survey—which is usually accurate by this stage in the year—to match the outturn "implies an increase of 8 per cent between the two halves of 1978."

The picture of buoyant investment for the rest of this year was mirrored by the Confederation of British Industry's survey of manufacturing alone in recent years by the growth in leasing, which involves a switch between the end of July and mid-September, estimated that man-

## Phillips in Irish oil strike

## Swiss franc falls sharply

BY MICHAEL BLANDEN

THE SWISS franc fell sharply in European exchange market dealing yesterday after the weekend announcement of new measures designed to weaken the currency.

The new moves by the Swiss authorities include increased intervention to bring down the franc exchange rate and the promotion of Swiss franc loans to foreign borrowers.

They made a substantial impact in early market trading, but later in the day a mood of caution developed and the Swiss currency picked up from its lowest levels.

Some dealers argued that, while the Swiss authorities might be able to bring about a weakening of the franc, it was unlikely to be permanent in view of the underlying pressures on the U.S. dollar.

At one point, the dollar rose 45-year low in Toronto of \$3.07 to SwFr 1.82, compared with U.S. cents—down from \$4.15 Friday's closing level of 1.90.

The round ended with a loss of 50 points against the dollar at \$1.9715, but its trade-weighted index closed unchanged at 122.7.

The immediate impact on the Swiss currency was reflected in a decline in its trade-weighted index, as calculated by Morgan Guaranty at noon New York time. This slipped to 95.4 per cent from 105.9 per cent.

Announcements are expected soon from the Aran/BP group drilling on block 26/22. Elf

Continued on Back Page



Swiss Francs per \$  
SWISS FRANC AGAINST THE DOLLAR

1978 Jul Aug Sep

E in New York

1 month 1.875-3.075 1.9715-2.075 1.9715-2.075

5 months 1.92-1.92 1.72-1.72 1.72-1.72

12 months 1.83-1.83 1.60-1.60 1.60-1.60

Risks and rewards Page 27

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## 2 EUROPEAN NEWS

## Comecon debts to Austria increase

By Paul Lendvai

VIENNA, Oct. 2. EAST EUROPEAN indebtedness to Austrian banks jumped by 40 per cent last year, raising the accumulated debts of Comecon countries to Sch 40bn (about £1.43bn), which is 46 per cent of the outstanding loans extended by Austrian banks. These figures were released by the Vienna Institute for International Economic Comparisons. A detailed breakdown of current Comecon debt to Austria shows that long-term loans from Austrian commercial banks account for Sch 30bn, short-term bank credits for Sch 5bn and direct credits from suppliers for almost Sch 5bn.

Poland is by far the largest debtor among the Comecon countries. Its debts of Sch 11.9bn account for 40 per cent of Austrian bank credits to Eastern Europe. East Germany takes second place with Sch 7.3bn, while the Soviet Union and Hungary each owe Sch 3.1bn to Austrian banks. These four countries account for 25 per cent of the long-term Comecon debt to Austria. Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria each report liabilities of only Sch 1.8bn to commercial banks and Romania Sch 600m.

## New electoral legislation for Portugal

By Jimmy Burns

LISBON, Oct. 2. THE Assembly of the Republic, Portugal's Parliament, today approved a new electoral law which effectively completes the legal framework needed to hold new elections. The law essentially updates existing legislation introduced before the last General Election held in 1976 and paves the way for the registration in the electoral roll of over 100 new voters—over 18-year-olds and settlers from the former African colonies—who were not eligible to vote in the last election.

Elections continue to be the most likely outcome out of the present political impasse brought on by the parliamentary rejection of Portugal's third constitutional Government over two weeks ago.

Weekend statements suggest that the country's major political parties are no nearer finding the common ground for a majority governing accord.

Meanwhile in a weekend interview, S. Alfredo da Costa, the caretaker Prime Minister, said that he and his government expected to remain in office for at least another one to two months. Despite the rejection of his programme, Sr. da Costa is still hoping to gain Parliamentary backing for a series of pending major policy decisions.

## UK warned in fish row

BRUSSELS, Oct. 2. THE COMMON Market Commission today published a letter from Mr. Finn Olav Gundelach, EEC Fisheries Commissioner, urging Britain to delay its unilateral action on fish conservation measures and warning that Brussels reserves the right to take "whatever action is appropriate in due course."

The letter, addressed in the British Mission to the EEC here, said the Commission could not endorse six conservation measures for which London had sought its approval.

## Provincial Minister's move upsets German N-project

By JONATHAN CARR

WEST GERMANY'S nuclear energy development plans have thus proved the way for a provincial minister to refuse approval of further work on a prototype fast breeder reactor.

The action by Herr Horst Ludwig Riemer, the Economics Minister of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, not only appears to have been taken against the wishes of many in the local state cabinet but also cuts across the position of the Bonn Government.

Affected by Herr Riemer's decision is the fast breeder reactor project at Kalkar, near the Rhine and the Dutch border, on which work began in 1973 and on which well over DM 1bn has already been invested. Also involved in the project are the Belgians and the Dutch.

It was expected that the reactor would begin operation in the 1980s, generating more

material than it consumed and thus proving the way for a more efficient use of nuclear fuel supplies in West Germany.

The path to a "plutonium economy" is one strongly opposed by the present US. The federal German system ensures wide powers for provincial governments and their Ministers.

Herr Riemer's support is needed if the Kalkar project is to go ahead on schedule and he is pressure to come under heavy pressure to reconsider his position.

AP-DJ reports from Bonn that Martin Grüner, West German State Secretary in the Economic Ministry said that the Kalkar installation is to be turned instead into a centre for disposal of plutonium from other existing reactors.

Experts appear astonished by this proposal. Even assuming that it proved practicable, it is

BONN, Oct. 2.

## By-election setback for Giscard in Paris

By Robert Mauthner

PARIS, Oct. 2. THE FRENCH coalition Government, whose economic policy is becoming increasingly unpopular, suffered another setback yesterday in a by-election in the 1st district of Paris.

This was the fifth successive Government defeat in a by-election since its handsome victory in the general election last March, and its falling fortunes have seriously undermined the already-shaky alliance of Giscardian Centrists and M. Jacques Chirac's Gaullist Party.

In yesterday's final ballot in Paris, the Socialist candidate, Mme. Edwige Avice, who had come second to her Gaullist opponent, M. Christian de La Malène, in the first round, polled nearly 54 per cent of the total

votes cast, against the latter's 46 per cent. A striking feature of the poll, as of the four previous by-elections, was that the Socialist-Communist alliance had

been reduced to a bare majority.

Not only did the Communist candidate, who came third in the first round, stand down in favour of Mme. Avice after the run-off, but Communist voters

faithfully transferred their support to the Socialist candidate, after the withdrawal of their own representative. This is eloquently confirmed by the figures. The combined votes cast for the Socialists and Communists candidates in the first round almost

exactly equalled Mme. Avice's 54 per cent in the second ballot.

M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, whose austerity policies are at the root of public disenchantment with the Government, has stoically played down the significance of the by-election defeat. "There are only two elections in France which count: the Presidential and the general elections," he said in a radio interview over the weekend.

With no decisive poll in the voting before the Presidential election in 1981, M. Barre clearly considers that the Government is in a strong position. But it could still fall, as the result of internal dissensions, and the Gaullists, who are the biggest if not the most influential coalition partners, are currently making some very threatening noises.

Meanwhile, the Socialists today tabled a censure motion in the National Assembly reconvened. There is no chance of the vote going against the Government when the issue is debated later this week.

WHEN THE acquisition of Cartel Office, are complete. Court underlined in its GRN

Ruhrgas by West German's largest importers of natural gas Affairs may give the office only instructions of a general nature (and these must be published in the official gazette) the contact between Bonn and Berlin is in fact much closer. This is particularly so since Herr Wolfgang

## RUHRGAS DEAL

## Cartel Office ruling cites competition restriction

BERLIN, Oct. 2.

By LESLIE COLITT

THE WEST GERMAN Cartel Office does not gas, the Cartel Office notes, object to the planned acquisition by BP of a 25 per cent share in Ruhrgas, West Germany's largest natural gas company, in Wilhelmshaven, not to its

taking over 1,000 final petro stations, plus a 50 per cent share in a Veba oil refinery in Ingolstadt, and the Etizone-Stromeyer Fuel Company. Veba in return is to be guaranteed access to BP oil supplies.

According to the Cartel Office, the Cartel Office in West Ruhrgas already has exceeded access to domestic and foreign Ruhrgas shares from Veba to BP sources of supply, as well as to

"increase Ruhrgas' domestic freedom" which reaches the consumer is supplied by Ruhrgas," it says. Because of Ruhrgas' market in the German gas market, the Cartel Office attaches great importance to what it calls

Only the Federal Minister of Economics, Count Otto Lambsdorff, the office notes, can now grant permission for the takeover. The West German Government between various sources of energy, especially between gas and oil.

This means ensuring competition between different types of energy and preventing takeovers from linking them. The two companies now hope Bonn will ultimately approve the Shell, Esso, Texaco and Mobil oil already have shares in Ruhr

## Prohibition may be lifted

By A. H. HERMANN, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

WHEN THE acquisition of Cartel Office, are complete. Court underlined in its GRN

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The Federal Cartel Office has the task of prohibiting mergers likely to create or increase market dominance. It has no brief for taking the general economic interests of Germany into account.

Unlike UK law, the German Competition Act separates the consideration of anti-competitive aspects of mergers from the question of whether a merger is or is not in the public interest.

The Federal Cartel Office has the task of prohibiting mergers to create or increase market dominance. It has no brief for taking the general economic interests of Germany into account.

The only limit imposed on his

Should this decision come for judicial review the court would judge it by the revised law. If it was consistent with the Cartel Office policy to ban the deal, it would be no less consistent for the Bonn Government to allow it on almost the same grounds on which it overruled the Cartel Office ban of the merger between Veba and Gelsenberg in 1974.

The Government's argument then was that faced with the cartel in oil equipment for large industrial projects, Germany must achieve greater strength.

With the BP/Veba deal assuring supplies of crude oil to Germany the argument remains as fresh as when first formulated in 1974.

## Metal workers' union rebuffed

By ADRIAN DICKS

INDUSTRIE Gewerkschaft-Metall, the huge West German metal-working and engineering trade union, is smarting today after suffering a sharp rebuff from its own members in weekend works council elections at the big Daimler-Benz car factory at Unterturkheim, outside Stuttgart.

The clear victors were a group of "rebels" to the left of the union establishment, who have built up their support steadily over the past six years since they first stood in opposition to the unionist union list. They won no fewer than 12 of the 25 seats in the blue-collar section of the works council.

Out of a total of 47 seats on the council, candidates on the IG-Metall list managed to secure a bare majority of 24, winning 15 seats in the blue-collar section and nine out of 12 in that elected by the staff entry. Some 85 per cent of the 12,000-plus work force at Unterturkheim are IG-Metall members. Herr Franz Steinkuehler, the works council was originally chosen last April, when the council,

Metall, described the union's setback as a "political defeat" but attempted to salvage something from the situation by commenting that it would be no bad thing for two groups to be competing in the interests of the union that some 1,800 ballot still favouring the IG-Metall candidates had plainly been falsified.

Although the background to this incident has not yet been fully explained, the rebels were able to have the election result set aside by a court and have new elections ordered from which they have emerged clearly strengthened.

Herr Hoss is apparently anxious to dispel the notion that he wants to politicise industrial relations at the plant, and has tried to contest his expulsion from IG-Metall. His supporters, who gained 39 per cent of the vote compared with the official list's 52 per cent, have done well from canvassing among night-shift workers and among foreign "guest workers" who also seem to have felt their interests and grievances were neglected by the outgoing works

council.

David Gardner reports from Barcelona: Sr. Landelino Llavora, Minister of Justice, and Sr. Josep Tarradellas, president of Catalonia's Generalitat, today presided at the formal handover of the first powers to be devolved to the regional government.

The Generalitat will now have

under its jurisdiction a limited range of matters affecting agriculture, urban planning, industry and commerce.

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 2. Then they will meet with the real debate, even informal, on in Spain about the agricultural chambers, and this Common Market. Since Spain will be followed by briefings of the local representatives of the EEC in July 1977 this is the first official attempt to explain the reasons for the application, the nature of the problems and the benefits of membership, and the complex workings of the EEC's institutions.

The campaign is being organised by the Ministry for Relations with the EEC, formed on February 10 this year and headed by a former Commerce Minister, Sr. Leopoldo Calvo-Sotelo. At the outset Sr. Calvo-Sotelo said he viewed his ministry as having a dual role—both to negotiate with Brussels and to prepare Spaniards for entry.

Over the next three months officials from the ministry plan to visit 54 towns and cities throughout Spain, effectively covering every major urban centre in the country. The emphasis is on holding a series of separate meetings with specific interest groups, rather than talking to large gatherings. Only the officials will first brief local media about the negotiating process with Brussels and the workings of the community.

"As an imposed military base, Gibraltar is a danger for the security of Spain and its 36m inhabitants, when it exposes to the world the risks they have never accepted,"

Sr. Oreja Aguirre said that Britain could no longer continue to ignore its duty to begin negotiations with Spain.

Gibraltar is a danger for the security of Spain and its 36m inhabitants, when it exposes to the world the risks they have never accepted,"

Mr. Calvo-Sotelo said the UN had repeatedly emphasised the need for a negotiated settlement.

Reuter

PARIS, Oct. 2.

A THREE-DAY strike on the French railways has reduced train services by more than half on most lines.

The latest transport snarl-up, which began yesterday in response to a strike call by four railwaymen's unions in pursuit of better working conditions, came as French air traffic controllers were once more working to rule.

Main line services from the Gare du Nord, including Channel-bound traffic, got off relatively lightly, with about 80 per cent of trains running as scheduled yesterday. Main line traffic from other Paris stations was about 50 per cent of normal. Only 15-20 per cent of suburban services have been

overruled by the strike.

The only limit imposed on his

Should this decision come for judicial review the court would judge it by the revised law. If it was consistent with the Cartel Office policy to ban the deal, it would be no less consistent for the Bonn Government to allow it on almost the same grounds on which it overruled the Cartel Office ban of the merger between Veba and Gelsenberg in 1974.

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## EUROPEAN NEWS

**Italian security strikes at the Red Brigades**

BY PAUL BETTS

ITALIAN SECURITY forces have apparently made a major breakthrough in their investigations into the extreme left wing Red Brigades. Although police were silent today on a 48-hour anti-terrorist dragnet in Milan, there are so far unconfirmed reports that the police operation, headed by the new chief of the anti-terrorist squad, General Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, has also to have taken part in the resulted in the arrest of two Red Brigades leaders.

These developments come at the same time as a renewal of political violence in Italy with a series of major terrorist and politically motivated incidents in Milan, Rome, Turin and Naples. In Rome, the funeral of a 24-year-old unemployed left-wing student shot dead by a group of extreme right-wing youths took south.

**Last days of the Lockheed trial**

BY PAUL BETTS IN ROME

THE LONG-drawn-out and controversial Lockheed affair is one of anti-climax. This may be an agreement with the Communists, Italy is now on its last legs. The appear a paradox, but in a sense who tacitly supported a new constitutional court of two generally regarded here to have former Defence Ministers, a already taken place. From the former Chief of Staff of the beginning the affair was seen not so much as the trial of former Ministers as individuals but as a broader political trial of the long ruling Christian Democrat Party as such, and what its opponents consider to be its corrupt and inefficient rule over the past 30 years.

The point was clearly expressed by Sig. Aldo Moro, the Christian Democrat leader kidnapped and murdered by the extreme left wing Red Brigades movement earlier this year. In the course of the Parliamentary debate on the Lockheed scandal

The next few weeks could be considered the climax of a trial which in many respects is unique in Italy. Yet this does not appear to be the case. The over-riding feeling here is one of anti-climax.

For Sig. Tanassi, the three members of the prosecution have unanimously requested a nine year term of jail, as indeed they have for the two Lefebvre brothers, Ovidio and Antonio, the lawyers accused of having handed over the bribes. For Sig. Gui, who is alleged to have received a Lockheed payment not so much for himself but for his ruling Christian Democrat Party, the prosecution has demanded six years imprisonment, although one of the three prosecutors dissented from the decision on the grounds there was no evidence but only suspicions against the former Minister.

Both Ministers, the first former cabinet members to be tried before the country's highest court since the fall of fascism, have repeatedly denied any improper action in connection with the Lockheed deal.

In all, the prosecution has asked for a total of some 58 years imprisonment for nine of the 11 defendants, who include the missing former chairman of the Finmeccanica state engineering holding company, Sig. Camillo Crociati, and the former Air Force Chief of Staff, General Duccio Fanali. In the light of these stiff demands by the prosecution, the defence winding up to begin today will be all the more crucial, especially since there is no right of appeal for defendants appearing before the constitutional court.

The next few weeks, therefore, could be considered the climax of a trial which in many respects is unique in Italy. Yet this does not appear to be the

last year preceding the vote to impeach Sig. Tanassi and Sig. Gui. Sig. Moro said that the debate had turned into a trial of his party's hold of political power in Italy.

The debate itself followed extensive investigations by a Parliamentary Commission set up to decide whether the evidence against the former Ministers was sufficient to propose the waiving of their parliamentary immunity so that they could stand trial. The all-party commission dismissed a former Prime Minister, Sig. Mariano Rumor, who had held office at the time of the Lockheed negotiations, on the basis of the casting vote of its Christian Democrat chairman. In a joint session of both the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, Parliament voted to impeach the two former Ministers.

The attack against the Christian Democrats came at a particularly vulnerable time for the ruling party. Its political influence had steadily been undermined by the rising electoral gains of the Inconclusive Party. After the inconclusive general elections of June 1976, vigorous front.

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**UK urges lower air fares to Scandinavia**

By Hilary Barnes

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 2.  
THE UK is pressing for lower fares and increased competition in its negotiations with the Scandinavian countries on new air service agreements. Mr. George Rogers, leader of the UK delegation, said here

This apparently concerned revival of political violence coincides with the efforts of the Government and the political forces to implement a medium-term recovery plan for Italy.

Sig. Giulio Andreotti, the Prime Minister, speaking at Viareggio over the weekend, claimed that the so-called "Italian risk" had now disappeared and that major international credit institutions were willing to advance long-term loans for major investments in Italy, including the depressed

Further north, in the small town of Buitenzorg, a spokesman for the Committee for the Defence of Liberty and Human Rights

The existing air service agreements were abrogated by the Scandinavians with effect from December 31 this year.

The Government acted at the urging of Scandinavian Airlines Systems. SAS feared that planned new routes for British commercial operators would undermine its position in the market for scheduled traffic.

The Scandinavians entered the negotiations hoping for an agreement which would ease up scheduled traffic 50-50 between SAS and British Airlines and would lay down restrictive rules for opening new routes from the UK to Scandinavia.

The UK is looking for an agreement which will permit increased competition to SAS and British Airways, which between them account for 80 per cent of the value of the market.

The British believe this competition will come both from independent operators and the charter companies.

Negotiations have been marked by tough attitudes on both sides. "The Scandinavians tried to smash our independence," Mr. Rogers added. "We had to point out to them that we had the power to break up SAS."

SAS is owned and operated jointly by Denmark, Sweden and Norway. The UK could break up SAS by withdrawing its right to operate from the three countries jointly.

The Christian Democrats, for their part, have attempted to clean up their image, and their governing alliance with the main opposition parties appears to have helped. The party has further gained considerable popular support in the wake of the emotional reaction to the kidnapping and murder of Sig. Moro. This has not been the case for the Communists who, under pressure from their own supporters and under attack from the Socialists, now appear to be losing ground.

But the UK felt it had to give notice to end so-called "full freedom" rights for Scandinavian charter companies. Withdrawal of these would prevent the SAS-owned Scanair charter company, jointly owned by the three countries, from flying between Scandinavia and the UK at all.

The UK did not intend to break up SAS and was not closing the door on the possibility of an agreement to extend "full freedom" rights to the charter companies in future, Mr. Rogers went on.

But the UK felt it had to give notice to end the charter companies' "full freedom" rights in order to bring the charter issue into the negotiations.

Talks will be resumed in London on November 13, when 10 days have been allotted for them.

**Bank of India Jersey branch**

THE BANK of India has started operations in the Channel Islands with the opening of a branch in New Street, St. Helier, Jersey.

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part of the party, Sig. Giovanni Galloni, close to the party, Sig. Benito Zaccagnini, as the new party chief whip, and the selection of Sig. Carlo Donat Cattin, the Industry Minister, who enjoys a degree of support from the base, as the party's Deputy Secretary, is tangible evidence of this.

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## OVERSEAS NEWS

## Syrians storm Christian stronghold

BY IHSAN HIZAJI

UNDER THE HEAVIEST barrage of artillery fire this country has ever witnessed, Syrian troops of the Arab peacekeeping force at dawn today stormed a militia stronghold in the Christian suburbs of the capital and rescued more than 20 of their soldiers who had been besieged since Saturday.

The bombardment, with the heaviest guns the Syrians force possesses, began shortly before dawn and did not subside for more than three hours. A communiqué by the Syrian-dominated command of the Arab forces said the barrage was discontinued once the soldiers, 10 of them wounded, were brought out.

The Christian militia, however, kept up their pounding of Syrian positions and the predominantly Muslim quarters of West Beirut. The shelling from Syrian positions last night was so heavy that practically every house in

Christian East Beirut was hit, speculations by diplomats that of the presidential palace at the according to witnesses. The United States might call for a suburb of Baabda. Shells fell Christians put their casualties a Security Council meeting to on the palace and the President during the past 24 hours at 300 consider sending UN troops to is reported to have spent hours in the basement of his residence and claimed that the Syrians suffered 400 casualties.

The exchanges shattered a ceasefire which was arranged on Saturday after a day of intense artillery duels.

The shelling which today placed on full mobilisation and were reported to be marching at the east Beirut quarter of Dora.

President Elias Sarkis is expected to address a message to the nation shortly. Radio Beirut has been telling Lebanese to stand by for the message.

Mr. Sarkis threatened last July to resign after fierce clashes between Syrian troops and the Christian militia. He later took back the threat but was reported to have said that he would resign if the fighting recurred on a large scale.

Much of the fighting during the past few days was in the vicinity of Chamoun, the main right-wing

Former President Camille Chamaa, who had been besieged since Saturday. The Christian militia, however, kept up their pounding of Syrian positions and the predominantly Muslim quarters of West Beirut. The shelling from Syrian positions last night was so heavy that practically every house in

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## Sadat appeals to Assad and King Hussein

BY ROGER MATTHEWS

PRESIDENT SADAT today made the prospect of being able to withdraw from occupied territory the most vigorous appeal yet to reach a comprehensive agreement with Israel and to break the shackles of past decades. He appealed directly to King Hussein of Jordan and to President Assad of Syria to join in the search for peace.

Mr. Sadat invited President Carter to be present in Cairo for the signing of the peace treaty with Israel. The American people should be proud of their President, he said, because he was among those world leaders who had changed the pattern of history that was offered.

The Egyptian leader said that negotiations aimed at reaching a peace treaty would begin soon and that he hoped final Israeli withdrawal from Sinai could be accomplished in a very much shorter time than the stipulated three years.

Egypt had achieved the fundamental principle of Israeli withdrawal from the Middle East at last had

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CAIRO, Oct. 2.

## Heavens open on Carter's birthday

By Jurek Martin

DISNEYWORLD, Oct. 2.

YOU CAN tell the tide is turning for President Jimmy Carter. There he was last night, on his 54th birthday, standing on a huge stage in front of the extraordinary chocolate box confection known as Cinderella's Castle, centerpiece of the improbable resort complex known as Disneyworld, addressing of all improbable people, an audience of several thousand international business.

The Saudis also told Newsweek they looked favourably on the proposal for Palestinian self-government on the West Bank.

Mr. Sadat repeated that there could be no comprehensive peace without solving the Palestinian problem and that the Camp David accords were just the first step on this road.

Mr. Sadat urged the Palestinians outside the West Bank and Gaza to stop squabbling among themselves, and to accept the opportunity that was offered.

Mr. Sadat avoided any direct personal criticism of other Arab leaders, especially in calling Colonel Muammar Gaddafi of Libya an "insane child."

AP reports from Baghdad:

President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr of Iraq is sending a personal

envoy to Syria to explain his

proposals for countering the

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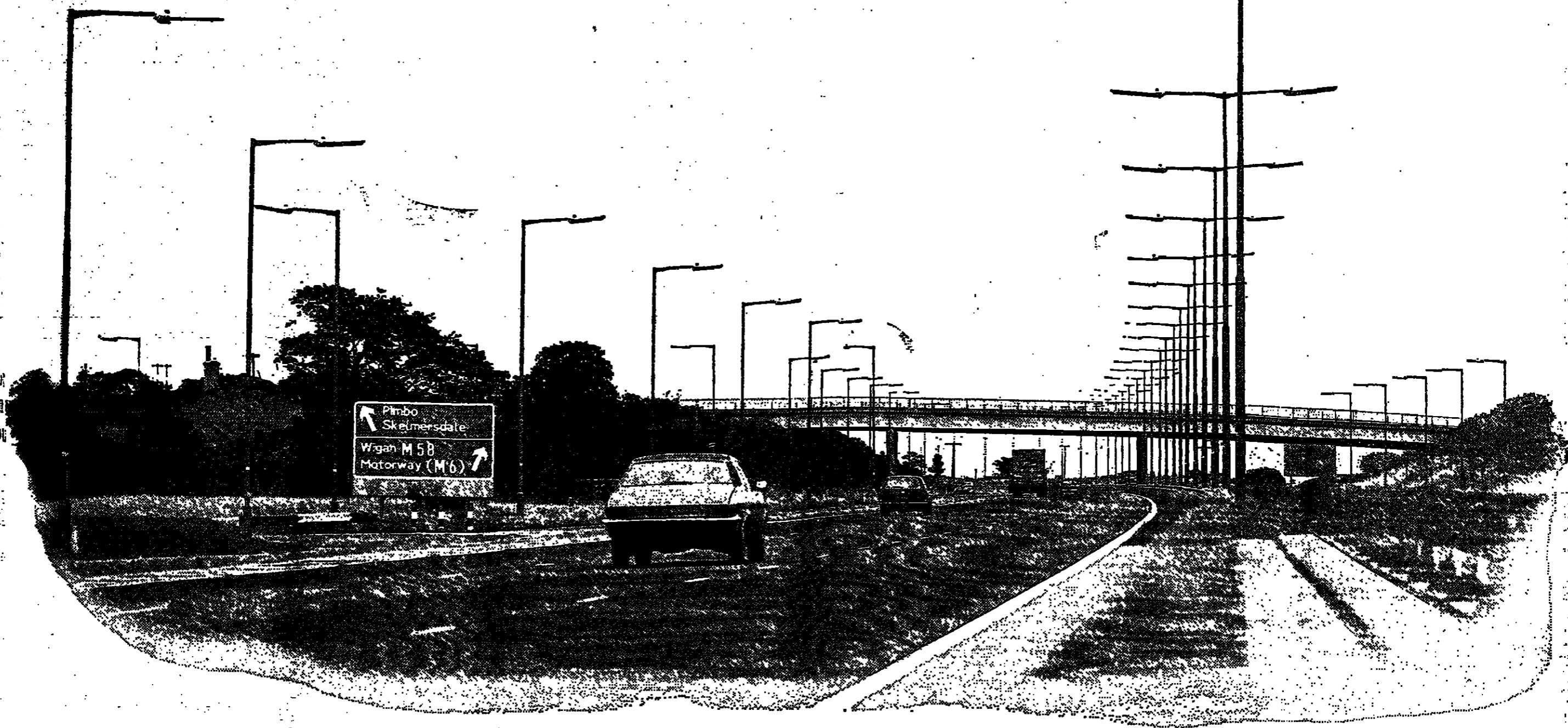
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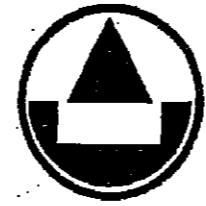


# Hush hour

All the jogging, non-smoking and high fibre eating in the world still leaves many executives at risk from an over-urbanised society.

Skelmersdale has a ready answer. Here it will take you all of two minutes from the factory to the motorway, perhaps ten minutes into open country, and home. It's like having a factory beside the South Downs, except that the financial scale is totally transformed.

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Telephone Skelmersdale 24242  
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## WORLD TRADE NEWS

## GISCARD'S BRAZIL VISIT

## A delicate bridging operation

BY DIANA SMITH IN RIO DE JANEIRO

FROM OCTOBER 4 to 8, President Giscard d'Estaing will be in Brazil, epitomising, with his presence the growing interest his country is showing in the nation that is now France's largest Latin American trading partner. Franco-Brazilian trade and business ties were given a boost in 1976 when Brazil's President Ernesto Geisel paid an official visit to France. The joint communiqué that ensued, in his words, "President Giscard d'Estaing stressed that Brazil's rapid development and France's high industrial and technological levels are creating new domains of mutual interest and cooperation."

At both Government and private business level, the French have worked hard in the past two years to make up ground they lost to West Germany and Japan. While France was concentrating on its own industrial problems and on consolidating relations with its former African colonies, the West Germans and Japanese latched onto Brazil's growth potential and strengthened their markets and pursued investment arm negotiators in search of lucrative deals.

In 1976, two-way Franco-Brazilian trade totalled \$856m but, by 1977 it had risen to \$851m. In 1978, French investment in Brazil totalled \$326.21m; by the end of 1977 the figure had increased by over 31 per cent to \$430m, making France Brazil's sixth largest foreign investor. By June of this year French investment had reached \$511.7m of which \$268.2m was new investment and the rest re-investment. Over 75 per cent of this investment is in the processing industries.

The communiqué set out the main areas where this mutual interest could be developed: hydroelectric projects, and European and European Space Agency (Esa) have already received contracts for the Itaipu, Tucuruí and Itaparica major schemes, contract with Brazil's nuclear

President Giscard d'Estaing's visit to Brazil, beginning tomorrow, highlights France's drive to make up lost ground in meeting the country's growing demand for major developments, from hydroelectric projects to uranium processing.

stock for the São Paulo suburban line, and French companies such as Cie Générale d'Automatisme, Alberite, Alsthom and Sofatec are supplying sophisticated electronic equipment for Rio de Janeiro's future \$900m underground.

French activities in Brazil are not limited to these fields: Rhône-Poulenc has been operating here since 1919 in textiles, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and other areas. Saint Gobain's local operations cover glass, metallurgy and fibro-cement.

That Brazil is interested in fast breeders is attested to by statements of some Government Ministers to this effect (which are later retracted). All this has put French diplomats in a position where they must maintain that "France is not seeking to produce Larama and Ecureuil

decopters locally. In view of France's joint development of fast breeders with West Germany and supply technology to increase Brazilian cut production from the present 6m tonnes a year to 10m tonnes a year, while M. Giscard d'Estaing will skirt round this complex question during his talks with President Geisel.

process. This agreement comes under constant fire, both domestically and abroad, for political, technical and financial reasons. As President Giscard d'Estaing's visit approaches, speculation that Brazil might eventually opt for French fast-breeder reactor technology has reached boiling point. That Brazil is interested in fast breeders is attested to by statements of some Government Ministers to this effect (which are later retracted). All this has put French diplomats in a position where they must maintain that "France is not seeking to produce Larama and Ecureuil

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## U.S. textile resolution 'is a threat to GATT'

By David Buchan

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.

A SENATE resolution, passed last Friday, barring the U.S. from offering tariff cuts on textiles, could have a "devastating" effect on the GATT negotiations in Geneva, Mr. Robert Strauss, the chief U.S. trade negotiator, said yesterday.

The European Community, in particular, has made it clear it will not agree to any better tariff treatment of American agricultural exports in the MTN negotiations unless the U.S. makes some concessions on textiles. A better deal for its farm exports is a key Carter Administration priority, while Mr. Strauss's officials admit that U.S. textile tariffs, especially on wool goods, are high.

The Senate amendment's sponsor, Senator Ernest Hollings of South Carolina, a major textile manufacturing state, said it was needed to stop the "haemorrhage" of exports into the U.S. which this year might lead to a net deficit on textiles of \$5.2bn. In fact, many of the quantitative aspects of the world textile trade were dealt with when the Multi Fibre Arrangement (MFA) was renewed last year, but the issues of tariffs, subsidies and rules of origin were left to this year's MTN talks.

Despite the easy passage of the Hollings amendment, which was tacked on to the Export-Import Bank Bill, the Administration still hopes that the House of Representatives will vote down a similar resolution, sponsored by Congressmen from North and South Carolina. It will argue that these two states in particular stand to gain very considerably from European tariff concessions on U.S. tobacco exports.

The British Steel Corporation, which accounts for the bulk of British sales of steel to the U.S. is in a special position in this imports row. Because of a series of anti-dumping complaints filed against its products by U.S. steelmakers the Corporation partially withdrew from the U.S. market, reducing its sales for 1978 to only 350,000 tonnes.

The Americans have responded by gradually withdrawing the complaints. The last one was withdrawn at the weekend by Armcro Steel. However, British Steel leaders attending the conference have made it clear that the corporation will not use its new found freedom in the U.S.

The Eurofer sees slowdown

## Washington presses EEC to check steel invasion

BY ROY HODSON

TALKS ARE going on between three U.S. Government departments and the European Economic Community towards a trigger price system, which is now just four months old, is regarded by the steel companies as a disappointing failure. If September and October import figures from Europe persist at high levels, the Government intends to review its demand for a tougher Government policy towards steel imports.

The Treasury Department, the Trade Department and Mr. Robert Strauss's Office for Special Trade negotiations are all involved in putting the pressure upon the Community to check the rising inflow of European steel which is upsetting the U.S. market and causing anger among U.S. steelmakers.

According to U.S. Government sources the West German industry is leading the European invasion with exports to the U.S. up 7.5 per cent in the first eight months of 1978 compared with the same period in 1977. Other EEC countries have increased their market share in the same period as follows: Holland 50.9 per cent, Italy 50.2 per cent, Belgium and Luxembourg 47.4 per cent, France 24.9 per cent and the United Kingdom 15 per cent.

But Mr. Anthony M. Solomons, under secretary of the U.S. Treasury, who spoke here today to the International Iron and Steel Institute annual conference, denied that he had discussed with the Community any proposal that there should be an orderly marketing agreement on steel between Europe and the U.S.

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The Eurofer sees slowdown

COLORADO SPRINGS, Oct. 2.

Government will not support them they are interested, as an alternative, in extending the trigger price system to give it more power.

David Buchan adds from Washington: The Administration has asked Congress to give it authority to waive retaliatory duties on imports believed to be subsidised for another year. As the present trade law stands, the Administration will automatically have to put countervailing duties on a number of EEC agricultural exports—a matter of grave concern to the European Common Market countries—from next January.

Up to now, the Administration has protested that many EEC farm exports are heavily subsidised but has taken no retaliatory action while it is still trying to negotiate an end to the subsidies in the MTN. But as additional leverage on the EEC, the Administration has requested last week for authority to waive duties until January 1981 to a stipulation that by the end of the year there must be a basic GATT agreement in Geneva, and it must include a provision on subsidies.

## Eurofer sees slowdown

BY GILES MERRITT

BRUSSELS, Oct. 2.

A SUBSTANTIAL slowdown in the flow of EEC steel into the U.S. is being forecast here for the last four months of this year.

According to Eurofer, the "club" that groups the major European steelmakers, the sharp increases in steel exports to the U.S. that occurred this summer will be counterbalanced by falling sales up until the end of this year.

Estimates prepared by Eurofer suggest that total EEC steel exports to the U.S. will reach 6.6m tonnes against 6.2m tonnes for 1977. The Eurofer figures imply a drop in the rhythm of sales to the U.S. with only around 1.8m tonnes being sold there by EEC producers during the September-December period.

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The Eurofer sees slowdown

## MITI tells Japan's car industry to cut shipments to Britain

TOKYO, Oct. 2.

BY CHARLES SMITH

JAPANESE MOTOR manufacturers have been told by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry to reduce their exports to Britain during the coming months. The reductions in shipment levels could be fairly sharp and may well result in a shortage of Japanese cars for sale in the U.K.

The embarks order issued in the form of "administrative guidance" is designed to reassure the British Government that MITI intends to honour its pledge not to let car exports to Britain exceed 1.7 levels. Last week the British Ambassador to Japan, Sir Michael Willford, requested such assurances in an interview with the Minister of International Trade and Industry, Mr. Toshio Komoto.

Sir Michael also apparently asked Mr. Komoto to try to persuade the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association

sides ended with what appeared to be lack of agreement on an SMMT demand for Japanese Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT). SMMT has export restraint during 1978. Following the SMMT-JAMA talks discussions were held between the British Embassy, Tokyo and MITI at the end of which MITI drafted a letter undertaking to "freeze" Japanese car exports to Britain in 1978.

After the MITI letter was written monthly shipments figures for Japanese cars began to show signs of levelling off but the total for the first eight months of 1978 remained well above the 1977 level. Sales from stocks accumulated before the MITI letter was written rose even faster and exceeded the level for the whole of 1977 by mid-September. It was in this situation that the British Government decided to make a fresh approach to MITI for assurances that the situation was under control.

Reuter

## Hitch in French Fokker talks

BY CHARLES BATELOR

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 2.

FRANCE HAS refused to give firm guarantees that it will share in the development costs of the Fokker-FW F-28 super jet airliner. This emerged after the return of a Dutch Parliamentary Commission from Paris.

French participation in the F-28 super-jet renamed officially after the F-28 as seen part of a F1 40-45m for the Orions. This package deal under which is because the French have in Holland would order 12 Fokker

aircraft to replace its fleet of F-27s for use by the French Navy as trainers and also expressed interest in participating in the F-28.

The French refusal to give firm assurances on the F-28 may increase the Orion's chances. Fokker confirmed reports that it is also talking with Lockheed about the possible co-operation on the F-28. Until now an offer to allow Fokker to carry out the final assembly of the Orions has been as far as Lockheed was prepared to go in offering compensation work.

In a statement today, however, Fokker said a working group is still studying the final "definition" of the F-28 and that until its work is completed no decision can be taken on who will take a risk bearing share in the development of the aircraft.

The French are also pressing for Fokker to be a full partner in the Airbus A310. Fokker has a 6.9 per cent share in the Airbus A300. Fokker wants a smaller share in the new generation Airbus because of the high development costs involved, a spokesman said. But it would still be a risk sharing partner in the new aircraft.

Development Corporation of Canada, which is supplying C\$130m. This was followed by the announcement in May of a ten year \$250m Eurodollar loan provided by a group of 16 international banks led by Citicorp International and signed in London yesterday.

This comes on the financing

for the project which will be the

largest ever to be undertaken in

Ireland. An export credit facility

from Morgan Grenfell and backed by the Export Credit Guarantee Department (ECGD), which put up £60m, and the Export

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# Beecham challenges drug patent ruling

BY KEVIN DONE

THE BEECHAM GROUP is for several years in an attempt to protect its interests in part by Bristol-Myers, which battle with Bristol-Myers, a broad spectrum antibiotic launched on the UK market in 1972. The drug can be used in a wide range of bacterial infections, including bronchitis and kidney and liver diseases.

This latest legal move concerns an action begun by Bristol-Myers contesting the amoxycillin patent granted to Beecham in 1977. Bristol-Myers appealed against the granting of the patent and the Patent Court ruled in its favour in July.

Problems between the two companies have arisen from a manufacturing and marketing agreement reached in 1958.

Beecham had made a major breakthrough with the development of semi-synthetic penicillins, but at the time needed to set up the unlicensed sales in some markets.

Beecham has been involved in legal actions with Bristol-Myers

# Pressure fault hits Brent oil pipeline

BY KEVIN DONE, ENERGY CORRESPONDENT

SHELL/ESSO has hit further Sullom Voe, which will eventually become the biggest of the 96-mile-long oil pipeline terminal of its kind in Europe, running from the Brent complex providing about half the UK's crude oil needs.

At the weekend, Shell cleared the Shetland Islands. The weekend, Shell cleared

pressure-testing of the pipeline inside the line left over

had been suspended after a from the construction period.

sudden, unexpected drop in the

The latest difficulty could be

pressure of water being forced simply a problem with either

through the line.

Engineers have started to

check the cause of the drop, but

it could be some time before

this is established.

Crude oil from the Dunlin

Field is scheduled to flow along

the pipeline later this month to

Sullom Voe.

# NCB pensions fund topped up by £59m

BY ERIC SHORT

THE NATIONAL Coal Board has had to pay an additional £89m into its staff superannuation scheme to maintain the real value of its pensions for 1978. This was revealed in the scheme's latest report, for the year ending April 5.

The pension scheme, which covers the board's management, supervisory and clerical staff, provides for the revaluation of pensions each year in time with the movement in the retail price index.

The index increased by 13 per cent in the 12 months to November 1977, but the actuary to the fund had advised that

the scheme's own resources would support a rise of only 5 per cent.

The Board agreed to make the additional payment to en-

able the full increases to be paid. This year's payment was twice the amount of the normal contributions paid by the Board.

This is the third year in succession the Board has had to pay extra to ensure that the level of pensions maintains their real value.

The report shows that the fund increased by £112m over the year to £62m. Total income for the year amounted to £163m, of which £102m came from contributions and £61m from investment income. Bene-

fit payments amounted to £52m.

At the end of the year, the scheme's assets were divided 63 per cent in equities and fixed-interest securities, 31 per cent in property and 6 per cent in liquid form.

# Two join Kirkby probe

BY JOHN ELLIOTT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

A CIVIL servant and a the PA report at the start of this management consultant have a year which had that the Mersey joined a Government working side-based co-operative needed a £2.9m injection over three years, plus various management and other changes.

Chaired by Professor Douglas Hague, of the Manchester Business School, the working party is expected to produce a report by the end of November.

One solution discussed by the department has been for Stelrad, a Metal Box subsidiary, to take over the factory and develop its radiator production.

# Sales of durable goods rise 11% in a year

BY DAVID FREUD

SALES OF durable goods have risen sharply over the last 12 months, confirming that consumer confidence is now well-established. In June-August sales were 11.4 per cent higher than the same period a year ago in real terms.

Sales of durables were the fastest-growing area in the overall expansion of retail sales, which were 6.5 per cent higher in the latest three months than a year earlier.

The revised index of the volume of retail sales for August, released yesterday by the Department of Trade, was slightly above the buoyant original estimate at 111.8 (1970=100, seasonally adjusted).

This was more than the final figure of 111.4 for July and close to the original estimate of 111.5 for August.

At the same time new instalment credit advanced by finance houses and retailers continued to expand. Total advances were 5 per cent higher in June-August than in the previous three months, seasonally adjusted.

Although the total is in current prices there has still been a substantial gain in volume.

The revised figure for retail sales confirms that June-August was the first three-month period in which the volume of spending in shops exceeded the average level in the peak year of 1973.

In June-August sales were 3 per cent above the level in the previous three months. Sales of durable goods were 7 per cent higher over the same period.

At the end of the year, the volume of sales this year will be 5.5 per cent and more above the level of 1971—comfortably over the 5 per cent increase predicted earlier in the year.

The smallest rise was seen in the volume of sales by food shops, up only 0.7 per cent in June-August compared with the

# HIRE PURCHASE CREDIT AND RETAIL SALES

(Seasonally adjusted)

	New credit extended by			Total debt outstanding (unadjusted)	Retail volume (revised)	Durable goods shops
	Finance	Houses	Retailers			
1976	340	493	2,349	105.9	117	129
	382	490	2,424	106.9	122	125
	392	521	2,516	107.3	125	126
	421	547	2,716	105.9	124	121
1977	457	550	2,792	103.3	116	125
	486	561	2,930	102.5	118	122
	544	605	3,108	104.3	121	121
	585	604	3,341	104.4	121	121
1978	626	634	3,507	106.3	125	129
	716	677	3,797	108.0	130	130
	701	717	3,499	106.8	127	127
	212	201	3,507	107.0	117	126
April	221	223	3,574	106.7	132	132
	243	228	3,601	108.4	130	130
	242	217	3,797	108.7	138	138
	213	245	3,821	111.4	138	138
August	252	241	3,953	111.8	134	134

Source: Department of Trade

# Steel Board plans to shut 52-year-old rolling mill

BY RAY PERMAN, SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT

THE BRITISH STEEL Corporation gave unions preliminary mills.

No date was given for the closure. It will mean loss of 150 jobs. Redundancy terms will be worked out with the unions.

Steel at the mill has to be dragged through the rollers.

The decision follows a review of BSC's seven light section mills which showed that while total capacity was 380,000 tonnes a year demand was less than 200,000 tonnes. The Victoria works is the oldest, and said to

share or service to customers.

# The Eighth Sea.

Do you know what Snow Beach is? It's the high-altitude beach at the foot of the Alpine peaks.

Along with seas of fog, which dissolve into nothingness from one hour to the next, it has two suns: a summer sun and a winter sun.

And in general everything else is a romantic or sophisticated beach can claim, only a bit different: instead of just water-skiing, real skis;

instead of pedal-boats, horse-drawn sleighs;

instead of sail-boats, sail-planes; instead of soft ice, eternal ice; instead of gulls, eagles;

instead of picturesque fishing villages, picture-que mountain villages; instead of ports, airports; instead of beach bands, waders in the village church; instead of truffles di mare, mountain cheese; instead of fountains, real waterfalls; and instead of swimming, instructors,

ski instructors like the snows of the slope.

Snow Beach extends from Grenoble to Salzburg; the eighth sea has the loveliest icebergs of all the seas; and Swissair modestly offers itself as the Snow Beach merchant marine and passenger line (from almost 90 destinations the world over to the ports of Zurich, Geneva, and Basel-Mulhouse).

DC-8, DC-9, DC-10, Boeing 747 and

SWISSAIR

## HOME NEWS

## MP aims to control auditors' shares

FURTHER STEPS to secure legislation forcing auditors to disclose their shareholdings in audit client companies will be made in the next session of Parliament by Mr Terence Higgins, Conservative MP for Worthing.

Mr Higgins, a former Minister of State at the Treasury and Opposition spokesman on Trade, introduced a Private Members Bill on the subject in July. This was mainly to stimulate discussion, since he knew it had little chance of being debated before the end of the present session.

He said: "It is pretty clear we shall have a Companies Bill in the next session—it is quite appalling the Government did not introduce one in the latest session. It remains to be seen if it covers this point."

In any case, Mr Higgins expects to press ahead with another Bill on the matter. He is in favour of self-regulation for the accountancy professions, but believes legislation would make the professions' own efforts in this area more effective.

His original intention was to attempt to make it illegal for auditors to hold shares in client companies.

## Gas flue danger survey planned

A SPOT survey of about 500 older houses is planned by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities to try to discover the extent of the dangers where solid fuel grates have been converted to gas fires.

## Whitbread confirms police inquiries

By PAUL TAYLOR

WHITBREAD, Britain's third largest brewer, yesterday confirmed that police were investigating allegations that employees in the company's East Pennines division had made extensive commission payments to club officers and others to win trade.

Whitbread East Pennines said yesterday that the company had been co-operating fully with Sheffield police for the past two months after allegations made by Mr Joseph Short, a former credit controller with the company.

Mr Short's allegations are understood to centre on payments to individuals rather than club funds or licensed premises to encourage beer, wine and spirits orders.

There is strong competition between brewers in the expanding clubs sector. Since 1965, the number of licensed clubs has increased from 17,000 to 31,000. Brewers sometimes offer capital to develop club facilities in society.

The Brewers' Society said discounts were part of normal trading practice, but the subject had not been discussed in the

## Canley produces first TR7

THE FIRST Triumph TR7 sports car rolled off the assembly line of the company's Canley plant in Coventry yesterday five months after the shut-down of the Speke factory on Mersey-side.

For Jaguar Rover Triumph, the specialist car company formed after the rationalisation of the old Leyland car empire, the move to Canley meant that the car "will be restored to a satisfactory level of profitability," Mr. Pratt Thompson, managing director, said yesterday.

The move to Canley will mean that by next summer TR7 output should reach almost 1,000 a week. At a projected rate of up to 45,000 cars a year—more than 80 per

cent destined for North America—the Canley output should be double that at Speke.

In the last full year at Speke only 23,000 out of a programmed 42,000 cars were turned out.

Mr. Thompson said that the transfer to Canley had been achieved on schedule.

The plan was to build up output gradually, but to ensure that sufficient TR7s were available for the spring selling season in the United States. First cars would be shipped by the end of this year.

## This part FREE when you move to Newcastle



Yes, two-thirds of your new factory and plant could cost you nothing when you move to Newcastle. All your company pays for is the remaining third.

It's almost unbelievable, but just look at this example.

If your expansion or re-location project is going to cost say £500,000, then you can recover over £300,000.

PROJECT COST		RECOVERY	
Factory buildings	£200,000	Building grant	£44,000
New plant and machinery	£300,000	Plant and machinery grant	£60,000
Total Project Cost	£500,000	Corporation tax allowance on buildings plus annual writing down allowance	£56,000
Net Cost of Project (£500,000 less £322,000)	£178,000	Tax allowance on plant and machinery (100% in 1st year)	£156,000
		Total Savings	£322,000

Additional assistance also is available to reduce the net cost even further.

There are no strings attached to this method of financing your project. It's government money, which means your money—use it to grow!

At Newcastle we're waiting to help you grow. Grants, long loans at low rates, tax allowance, rent relief, interest subsidies... plus extra special grants exclusive to this region.

Sites, skilled labour, housing, excellent amenities—you name it and the chances are we have it. And don't forget—Offices and Service industries (with the exception of retail shops or

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To: Mike Foley, Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8PP	
NAME	POSITION
COMPANY	
ADDRESS	
TEL:	



Newcastle—could be your best business move ever!

## SNP attacks oil policy

By Ray Pernell  
Scottish Correspondent

THE GROWTH of the economy is likely to slow sharply next year with inflation moving back into double figures, say stockbrokers, Phillips and Drew.

In their latest economic out-

look the brokers forecast an

inflation rate of 5 per cent

in the next few months.

The rate could be as high as

10 per cent in 1979.

This will bring a sharp slowdown in economic growth.

At 5.31 per cent increase in

retail gross domestic product over

the past year Phillips and Drew

are looking for a growth of only

1 per cent next year.

Manufacturing production is expected to rise by 2.4 per cent after 4 per

cent growth this year.

In spite of the slowdown and

the extra benefits from North

Sea oil, the brokers forecast a

surplus of only £1bn on the

balance of payments current

account.

The slowdown in the economy

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but with inflation picking up interest rates, with the

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surplus, the brokers suggest being financed comfortably

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# Control Data has earned a reputation for being 'more than a computer company.'

## Why?

We're more than just a major supplier of computer systems. We operate one of the World's largest data service companies. We manufacture and sell peripheral equipment and ancillaries. We've taken a lead role in the development and delivery system required to implement computer based education. We offer an extensive range of training facilities. We provide consulting, technology exchange and engineering services. We even offer a wide range of credit facilities. Clearly, we're more than a computer company.

You're also widely respected as the World's largest supplier of scientific and engineering computer systems. Can you help other types of customer?

Yes we can. Our expertise in networking and interactive computing gives us an important edge. We've systems operating in applications as diverse as banking, communications, insurance policy processing, service bureaux and health care. Customer appreciation is high because only a company with our breadth of skills could provide the total solution needed. Helping to find solutions to society's major problems is a key strategic goal for us.

With your skill in systems, why the emphasis on services?

There are many data processing applications that are best handled by a data service. For example, many important applications, with flexible usage, can be made quickly available with little or no capital investment. Applications already available through our data services offer significant cost and availability benefits to our customers in their programs to expand their data processing capabilities.

What Control Data Services are available to UK customers?

We offer the widest range of data services in the UK today. They fall into three categories:

1. Processing — a wide variety of business packages such as ledger accounting and payroll.
2. Timesharing services for planning, analysis and control of business operations.
3. Services which provide computer-based batch, remote batch and timesharing services for scientific and engineering users. We have a major data processing centre in London... and it's expanding fast. UK customers can take advantage of facilities offered by our global network.

What does your Professional Services Division offer?

Basically, unbiased solutions to customer problems. It's made up of people who are truly consultants. They are rated on how well they solve customer problems, even if the solution sometimes means we use competitive products or services.

You claim to be the supplier of the widest range of OEM peripherals. Does this help UK customers?

Beyond doubt. We sell to systems houses, leasing companies and computer companies. Using their label or ours. This provides them with the economies of mass manufacture and frees their resources to develop systems.

Do you supply peripherals to users of other manufacturers' large computers?

Yes. To users of IBM Systems 360, 370 and 3030 series. Here we provide compatible and cost-effective solutions for storage and mass storage.

What sort of engineering back-up do you give customers?

We operate a round the clock service throughout the UK. What's more, our engineering department will plan, upgrade or build installations for any kind or size of equipment. We've already planned or built many facilities to accommodate the equipment of every major computer manufacturer.

Your Control Data Institute is said to be the largest independent trainer of programmers, analysts and engineers. Once trained do these people find jobs?

Yes. More than 95% of our graduates, many of whom have been previously unemployed, find jobs within our industry. Those who were previously employed almost certainly improve their status and leave vacancies for less skilled people. We also provide, at no cost, to all companies within the industry the best source of trained people at a time when the industry is desperately short.

Do you manufacture in the UK?

Yes. We have a plant in South Wales which manufactures magnetic media. It has just been awarded the Queen's Award for Export Achievement. We also have joint ventures. With ICL we have a company which manufactures and supplies computer ancillary equipment. With ICL and NCR we are just starting manufacture of peripherals for both the UK and export markets. R & D costs are spread worldwide. Great economies are achieved by mass manufacture of major items.

Why do you have such a broad base of products and services?

Because the provision of hardware is only part of the customer's problem. His best solution may not even be the purchase of hardware at all. So it makes sense to provide products and services through the whole spectrum of computer-based solutions. Fortunately we've the experience, facilities and capability to provide them in depth and in a way that benefits our many users throughout the UK.

Managing Director, Jack Ward, answers this and other questions of direct interest to users and potential users of computer systems.



Queen's Award for Export Achievement held by Magnetic Media Manufacturing Division



More than a computer company

For additional information on how Control Data Limited may help your business write for this 36-page booklet, Control Data Limited, 22a St. James's Square, London, S.W.1.



## HOME NEWS

## Start soon on worker directors Bill

BY JOHN ELLIOTT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

MINISTERS are expected to major plank of the Labour Party's election manifesto and start preparing an Industrial Bill containing statements of employee consultation and worker directors this month.

Under present plans, the Bill that there was not to be a year and start what is likely to be a stormy passage through Parliament. If a general election were then delayed long enough, there would be a chance of the Bill becoming law next summer.

Mr. James Callaghan, Prime Minister, has identified himself with the development of the Government's policy in this area and personally launched its industrial democracy White Paper in May.

He is expected to make it a may be a need for further

detailed consultations, the main task of deciding what should go into the Bill is about to begin.

The main point of principle facing Ministers, who will be aware that their chances of getting any legislation through Parliament will increase if more attention is paid to the interests of all employees.

Or more detailed points, the treatment of multi-national and other groups of companies has to be finalised, as has the question of whether certain classes of companies—newspapers or banks for example—should be exempted from the legislation.

The role of the White Paper's joint representative committee comprising union representatives, who also

arranged so that companies with existing established consultation arrangements do not have to

change them to fit in with the worker director part of legislation.

If this change was made, there would be a general rule that the statutory rights on worker directors would not operate until three or four years after the legislation came into force.

A proposal that all company directors should be required to take the interests of their employees, as well as their shareholders, into account when making company decisions is to be considered.

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## FT CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT

## Rodgers keeps open mind on Channel Tunnel plan

BY IAN HARGREAVES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT



Brigadier D. N. Locke, director general of the Chartered Institute of Transport, greets the Duke of Kent at the opening of yesterday's international transport conference.

TRANSPORT MUST expect to take a lower priority in national spending plans, Mr. William Rodgers, Transport Secretary, said yesterday.

Mr. Rodgers, speaking at a conference organised by the Financial Times and the Chartered Institute of Transport, said that in recent years the public had been prepared to pay a rising price for transport because of the demand for higher living standards.

But with the economic and social problems facing all countries, governments would be unable to sustain this upward trend of spending.

"My message for the transport professionals is: make do with the resources you have got. I can only give more to one form of transport at the expense of another," he said.

Mr. Rodgers said that the Channel Tunnel was a project well outside the scope of present available public expenditure, but he would be considering "with an open mind" the proposal of British and French railways for a single-bore, rail-only tunnel.

On other European issues, Mr. Rodgers complained at the excessive attention to detail in the EEC debate on transport, which stemmed from the lack of an adequate political dimension in Community affairs.

Britain, having joined the Community late, had limited room for manoeuvre, but would not give way where it meant reducing standards. Such a case was the proposition for a Community driving licence, which could have a detrimental effect on British road safety standards.

Agreement on this issue would have to involve limited recognition of national driving licences between EEC states.

## Energy

One of the biggest challenges facing transport was the uncertainty of energy prospects. It was already time to plan the transition between relative plenty and relative shortage. Sir Peter Masefield, joint deputy chairman of Caledonian Airways, said it would be necessary to convert almost every form of transport from almost total dependence on fossil fuels to almost total non-use of these fuels within the next 25 years. Electric power would be one key and the sodium-sulphur battery promised to be an efficient substitute for the internal combustion engine.

He saw a clear need for major public investment in airports, in major cities, in a motorway box around London, and in a Channel Tunnel.

Investment was vital, he sug-

gested, in the interests of Pembroke College, Cambridge, and a part-time board member of British Rail, said that in considering the case for more railway electrification, the Government should "prepare for the worst" on the energy front.

The case for electrification had to be made on its likely internal rate of return and this case was materially improved if the future was assumed to involve much higher energy prices.

By the year 2000, electric power might be three times

cheaper than oil compared with a 50 per cent advantage now.

Professor Hans Joachim Forster, Director Daimler-Benz AG, said that the technical possibilities for reducing fuel consumption in road vehicles were small compared with savings available through more careful driving and better planning of roads and traffic flows.

Government policies should be directed at maximising savings in these areas because existing regulations and market conditions had already pushed manufacturers almost to the limit in seeking technical improvements.

Another area for effective Government action would be in raising maximum carry weights, from 38 tonnes to 44 tonnes maximum, offered the possibility of a 4 to 1 per cent energy saving.

## Fall in new orders for machine tools

BY MICHAEL CASSELL

NEW ORDERS for UK machine tools during the second quarter of this year were 2 per cent lower than in the previous three months.

Government figures released yesterday show that the value of orders taken between the beginning of April and the end of June stood at £122m, a level similar to a year earlier.

New domestic orders, during the period rose to £50m after falling in the first quarter. This trend was, however, offset to some extent by a fall of 13 per cent in new orders from abroad, which dropped from £86m in the first quarter to £51m in the second.

The provisional statistics suggest that sales of machine tools to UK manufacturers fell by 4 per cent in current price terms between the first and second quarters but rose by 27 per cent in volume terms, total compared with a year earlier.

## Textile group to spend £3m on re-equipping

BY RAY PERMAN, SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT

DON BROTHERS, the Forfar-based textile group, is spending £3m over the next 18 months re-equipping and expanding capacity in its factories, which are mostly in the Angus area.

The group has been diversifying away from jute for 15 years and has interests in man-made fibres. More than £1.3m is to be spent on its recently acquired subsidiary Don Fibres, which will be in them."

## New coal fuels 'will take time'

By John Lloyd

THE DEVELOPMENT of new coal technology to replace oil and natural gas "will be difficult and long," according to Dr. David Dainton, director of the research establishment at the National Coal Board.

It was generally agreed that supplies of oil and natural gas would decline sharply from the mid-1980s and that substitution of coal-derived fuels would be required in large quantities from then. At times, however, the end of the century seemed "disconcertingly close."

In May, the Government said that it would invest £20m in a five-year programme to develop coal liquefaction (oil from coal) and coal gasification (substitute natural gas from coal).

Mr. Alex Eadie, a junior Energy Minister, said then that development of these technologies would mean that the UK would "need to use the coal it could get to satisfy demand."

Dr. Dainton stressed that the problems which lay ahead in research and development, and said that 2000 would be the year after which oil and natural gas production would decline, rather than that given in the Department of Energy's forecasts—the early 1990s.

The development of the fluidised bed boiler which could burn coal and other fuels at comparatively high efficiency, was the biggest hope for growth of coal sales to the industrial market.

Mr. Ray Hunter, director of the Coal Board's western area, is to conduct a feasibility study into new mining methods for the Australian Iron and Steel Company.

## Tyne ship workers join sales drive on Continent

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

IN A bid to win more work from men from the group's yards on the Continent, the Tyne Ship Repair Group is taking workers seas. They would be split into management and from all levels three groups.

Mr. Rob Butler, chief executive of the Tyne Ship Repair Group, said yesterday: "We will be going to Europe later this month to meet prospective customers."

Mr. Butler, who will accompany Mr. Butler as he visits prospective customers, "We are doing it so the customers can meet the men who will be working on their ships and will be saying to them 'we think we are OK, what do you think?'"

The novel sales offensive comes only a few weeks after the announcement of a new era of co-operation between management and men at the group's six yards and 18 docks on Tyneside in which a "no strikes for 12 months" pledge has been given to the company by its employees.

"This is a new approach, I think it will work," he said.

Mr. Butler said that about 20

London weighting allowances, which are intended to cover the cost of housing, travel, wear and tear and other minor costs of living in the capital, are £485 for inner London and £275 for outer areas.

The allowances will be increased under the offer.

Civil Service unions believe that the offer, which falls under the Government's Stage Three guidelines, is within the 10 per cent limit because not all London civil servants are covered by it.

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The new offer would give a 12.7 per cent increase in the inner London rate to £242, covering about 150,000 civil servants.

The claim, presented by the Civil Service unions, was for increases of up to 53 per cent to £213 for inner and £272 for outer London, based on indices prepared by the Department of Employment.

Arbitration

General secretaries of the nine non-industrial civil service unions will discuss the offer today and the full staff side of the National Whitley Council will debate it on Thursday.

A meeting of all London members of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, the second largest civil service trade union, will be held on the offer tomorrow.

The society is expected to lead a move among the unions for the allowances to go to arbitration in the hope of increasing the period of depression in the industry, the order will provide passengers and 300 vehicles, us with work in late 1979 and they are due for delivery in early 1980."

Mr. Ronald Punt, Harland and Wolff's managing director, said: "We are particularly pleased that BR should have returned to us for the additional ships. Coming as it does during a period of depression in the industry, the order will provide

passengers and 300 vehicles, us with work in late 1979 and they are due for delivery in early 1980."

Mr. Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Shipbuilding, approached Mr. Casey.

But the Industry Department said last night that unless relations improved it might step in with "more positive action."

The fall in the yard's productivity over the past 18 months was described as "deplorable" by Mr. Derek Kimber, company chairman in August.

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## LABOUR AT BLACKPOOL



Reports by John Hunt, Ivor Owen, Elinor Goodman and Philip Rawstorne. Pictures by Terry Kirk.

## State control of BP urged

THE National Executive will urge the Government to take direct control over British Petroleum, in which it now has a 51 per cent stake, authoritative party sources said.

The recommendation arises from a National Executive call for a full inquiry into the oil company's Rhodesia sanctions busting, which conference will debate later this week.

Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Energy Secretary, a senior member of the executive, said that the resolution, which is likely to gain overwhelming support, calls for BP to be brought under the direction of the Government, like the National Coal Board or gas corporation.

Party sources said the move on BP was unopposed within the executive.

The decision, reached without a vote, was taken at the end of a marathon pre-conference session.

The executive also called for release of all relevant British official and oil company papers to the inquiry.

Mrs. Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, was unsuccessful in her attempt to get the executive to demand a tribunal of inquiry into sanctions busting.

She told her colleagues on the executive: "This procedure has power to get at the truth, but any other kind of inquiry has slightly less power."

## Ford strikers lobby MPs

SHOP STEWARDS and convenors from Ford plants at Dagenham, Halewood and Balsall yesterday lobbied the conference to enlist support in their strike against the Government's pay policy.

They met union delegates and various MPs. Last night, Mr. Ron Todd, the Ford union's chief negotiator, met the Prime Minister and Chancellor Denis Healey at a cocktail party in Blackpool.

## Wilson to go to Blackpool

SIR HAROLD WILSON intends to attend the conference. It is expected that the Rhodesian oil row will be discussed, but Sir Harold insisted that he had not seen a copy of the Bingham Report into sanctions breaking. He added that he had not read the report.

## Three-point prison plan

LABOUR'S National Executive yesterday called for Government action to improve Britain's prisons and to reduce their population.

The executive's statement on law and order says: "Our prisons are grossly overcrowded. Many are old-fashioned and insanitary."

"The Government must act to improve the prison environment and reduce the prison population by ensuring the use of alternatives."

The three methods suggested are the use of community service orders for most offences against property, further extension of the parole system and an urgent review of sentencing practice.

## Goodbye to smoky rooms

CIGARETTES, PIPES and cigars were stubbed out in Blackpool as the conference was officially declared a "smokeless zone." Delegates voted narrowly in favour of banning smoking during sessions.

Mr. Bryan Stanley, general secretary of the Post Office Engineering Union, said it had been suggested that, as the Government was advising that smoking was health risk, it would be appropriate for the conference to set an example.

## Today's agenda

The Prime Minister, Mr. James Callaghan, makes his Parliamentary report.

Agricultural land.

Taxation.

Death grants.

NEC reports, including re-selection of MPs.

# Decisive farewell to future wage restraint

THE Labour Conference yesterday decisively rejected the Government's incomes policy. A majority of two to one spurned the five-per-cent limit and any idea of further wage curbs.

The Government's position was ably—though magnificently—defended by Mr. Healey and Mr. Michael Foot.

The Chancellor told delegates that pay restraint had been the "miracle ingredient" in the Government's policies that had enabled it to reduce inflation.

Whoever won the next election would inherit the best economic prospects since the war, he said.

The keys to a Labour victory would be the maintenance of the Prime Minister's authority and continued control of inflation.

But with the block votes of

the transport, engineering, mining and public service unions against him, the Prime Minister certainly faces a cold winter.

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the transport, engineering, mining and public service unions against him, the Prime Minister certainly faces a cold winter.

So did Mr. Foot. Conference was ignoring reality, he declared. "That is not a policy for Socialists. It is a policy for hermits."

Nothing that raised inflation could be good for the country or the Labour Government. He called on the party to show its nerve, intelligence and courage in facing the country's problems.

Mr. Sid Weisbord, the railwaymen's leader, took a harsher line. Conference was evolving a new philosophy. It is the philosophy of the pig trough—those with the biggest mouths get the biggest share.

He scoffed at the "emotional spasm" which moved the

opposition to the Government and derided the responsible collective bargaining that sought 40 per cent pay increases.

"The trade union movement has abdicated its responsibilities," he said.

But if the Government had the best speeches, it never had a chance of commanding a majority of the votes. One union leader after another rose to throw his membership block into the 5 per cent limit.

Calling for more Government flexibility the trade unions' demands became more rigid. Mr. Ross Evans, the transport leader, was hostile. Mr. Clive Jenkins was oratorical in his opposition. Mr. Alan Fisher

of the public employees' union, inveigled emotionally against the exploitation of dedicated workers.

The Prime Minister noted claims that the country was both such a "bucket of money" and a "sink of unemployment" that pay restraint should be removed at once.

He gazed distantly across the hall as somewhat sadly but coolly, Mr. Joe Gormley, the miners' leader declared: "Five per cent is not the pattern for this year."

The miners had supported Government policy for four years, he said. It was now time to let them and the other trade unions do their own job without interference.



Miss Joan Lester: higher public spending needed.

"It is more sensible to be spending money in providing jobs than to spend it on unemployment pay," she told delegates.

The Labour Party was dedicated to full employment and high levels of public expenditure—two factors which were closely connected.

"Surely we need to challenge the bankers' notions of what is good for the people of Britain."

The Labour movement could not accept the coexistence of unemployment and unused resources.

Production for use and not for profit was no longer merely a Socialist slogan. It was a necessity if the country was to survive.

It was contrary to common sense and Socialism to be spending £40bn a year on unemployment assistance when teachers were being prevented from teaching and hospital workers were unemployed while hospital lists grew.

The Labour Party believed in a shorter working week and voluntary early retirement.

But this was not the answer to the fact that technological advance was shifting jobs away from manufacturing and towards the service sector.

These aims had to be in Labour's manifesto, not just as aspirations but as obtainable objectives.

## Election warning on 5 per cent

MR. ROY GRANTHAM, general secretary of the Association of Professional, Executive and Computer Staffs (APEX), said the pay debate concerned nothing less than the question of whether Britain was to continue to have a Labour Government.

He asked delegates to repeat the motion on incomes policy which opposed any form of wage restraint.

He said the idea of Mr. Len Murray—that there should be talks between the Government and unions to resolve the current "dire situation" should be adopted.

If the Government is too inflexible and their opponents too loose in their attitudes we need to bang the heads of both sides together and tell them to serve the interests of the whole of the nation.

Britain had made a good economic recovery and leaders should "avoid destroying each other by intolerance." APEX would move that the crucial motion rejecting wage restraint should be remitted.

Mr. Sylvia Ingerson, Lambeth councillor, representing Norwood Labour Party, said a 5 per cent ceiling did not mean the perks of company directors will be limited to 5 per cent.

He claimed that if union leaders were left to determine the philosophy of the big pig trough—those with the biggest mouths get the biggest share.

"I reject it, my union rejects it, and if I am the only one standing here saying it, I will reject it until I drop down dead."

Mr. Weisbord insisted: "I don't like the 5 per cent any more than you do, but it is there because the trades union movement has abdicated its responsibility."

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## Evans leads union attack on pay

Mr. Denis Healey, pointing the way for a great leap forward

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## EEC attitudes differ

THE SPLIT over Europe in the Labour Party was graphically illustrated at two meetings last night.

While Mrs. Barbara Castle warned "xa" discussion about whether Britain joined the European economic monetary system would result in new calls for withdrawal from the Community.

Mr. David Owen, Foreign Secretary, pleaded that the issue should not become another EEC battle within the Community.

His union would not be asking the NEC to campaign against the Labour Government over pay restraint.

Mr. Tomorrell called on the Government to encourage a shorter working week in talks

with public sector employees.

"We need to put priority on reduction of hours rather than maximising individual earnings," he said.

Mr. Tudor Thomas, of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staffs, called on the Government to take steps to deal with the "unacceptably high levels of unemployment in the country, particularly in the jobless 'black spots.'

He spoke of the "terrible waste of manpower" and the tragic start in adult life" facing many young people.

Of the "black spots" Mr. Thomas said: "In these areas, unemployment is not merely a matter of concern and debate but a major factor casting a shadow over the whole community, influencing and shaping

people and particularly young people's views of what society thinks of them."

Mr. Thomas said: "Full employment may not be Socialist, but Socialism without full employment will have very little meaning for many of our comrades."

He was particularly concerned that last January 28 per cent of unemployed male workers and 50 per cent of jobless women were under 25.

Mr. Thomas said it was vital that the Government should take steps to deal with short- and medium-term unemployment problems and there should be an early stimulus of the economy, still tilted towards increasing public expenditure in deprived areas.

Mr. Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of

Scientific, Technical, and Management Staffs told the conference that the call was for free collective bargaining—starting last night.

We also reject any artificial restraints on pay bargaining and reject the current 5 per cent.

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# MANAGEMENT IS THE NAME OF THE GAME

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F.I.I.

## Huffing and puffing over Alberta's sticky oil problem

BY W. L. LUETKENS

IRONY COULD hardly have estimated that the oil sands Bay Oil and Gas, Pacific Petro- mated to a certain extent. They would yield 110,000 b/d from Ieum and Petroline. All going do not allow for considerable Syncrude in 1979. By 1989 the well, the plant would be in finds of conventional oil which sands would be yielding 350,000 production by the mid-1980s. have been made in Alberta this b/d and by 1995, 550 b/d. These Imperial Oil, one of the partners year and last at Pembina. They are forecasts which explain why, in Syncrude, wants to begin have not yet been fully vici- situdes that has dogged at a moment when the entire working heavy oil near Cold evaluated: depending upon attempts to win oil from the famous Athabasca oil sands. The Syncrude venture seemed to be like on a commercial scale which forecast you believe, they collapsing under cost overruns, (producing 145,000-165,000 b/d) range from 200m barrels to the governments of Canada and having gathered experience with Alberta, and of Ontario as the a pilot plant. It uses what is proven recoverable reserves in main consuming province, quinlly known as the huff and Alberta at the beginning of this stepped in to rescue it. They puff method: you "huff" down year of 1.5bn barrels). But Pembina is not going to became shareholders, along steam to soften the heavy oil. But Pembina is not going to change the basic pattern: all it can do is to slow down the decline of the conventional reserves of relatively low cost crude in Alberta. The future almost certainly lies with high cost oil from the sands or from the so-called offshore and frontier regions.

Oil and gas have been looked for off the Canadian Atlantic coast, in the Mackenzie Delta area, and north of Alaska, in the Beaufort Sea. Except in the Beaufort Sea, no oil well worth going after seems to have been found, though there is gas in potentially commercial quantities off Labrador, in the Delta, and also on the Arctic Islands. The big current excitement is concentrated on the Beaufort Sea, where Dome Petroleum has found hydrocarbons and caused some considerable stock market excitement. The phrase "another Prudhoe Bay" was freely used but far more drilling than can be done this year will be needed to evaluate the find. Drilling will have to cease in October, before the Beaufort Sea freezes over. That is a necessary precaution since it might be impossible to plug a blow-out should one occur, under the ice.

Frontier oil and oil from the sands and the heavy oil deposits account for a substantial chunk of the \$1.67bn which, according to an estimate of the Bank of Nova Scotia, will be spent on energy development in Canada between 1987 and 1990—quite a boost to economic activity. The biggest single element in that is the oil sands at Cold Lake, Alberta, and near the Peace River, in north-western Alberta, that will grow from year to year, but the figure would come forward: Shell is proposing to yield of the oil sands and the steel booms from which the heavy oil deposits deep trial countries to have its own below the surface at Cold Lake, oil. The decline of the oil fields in Alberta-Saskatchewan conventional oil fields has imposed a strain on external payments account, which is calculated in constant 1975 prices: \$91bn on electric power, followed by \$36bn on petroleum development and exploration, \$21bn on pipelines, and \$8bn on the quantities. Unlike normal crude forecasts of April, forecasts of April, without applying heat to soften 550,000 b/d next year to 1.5m maybe the scale of some of these ventures is more strikingly illustrated by the fact that oil it cannot be made to flow imports of crude oil rising from b/d in 1995.

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# Technical Page

EDITED BY ARTHUR BENNETT AND TED SCHOETERS

## • COMMUNICATIONS

### Talking and writing at the same time

FOR THE cost of a colour TV, appear on all the screens at the once development has been completed, a subscriber to the discussion can suggest additions ordinary telephone service or deletions since the equipment could transmit to the person he is designed to wiped out as required. Furthermore, both text, altering these as required, the telephone discussions and the diagrams can be recorded on cassette tape for playback. There is an inhibit mode which ensures that only one person at a time can actually write or draw.

"Scribofon" will be suitable for conferences and mobile applications.

Based on initial work in Delft University of Technology, the unit consists of a screen and a writing pad. This pad consists of a layer of plastics with wires in the X axis and Y axis. A pulse sent through the wires is detected by a pen connected to a decoder and the latter determines the position of the point of the pen at all times in function of measured intensity and time lag between start of the pulse and its detection.

The sequence of pen positions is transmitted over the telephone line to the small display screen at the receiving end, as the conversation proceeds.

When a group of people are using the system, the diagrams

WC2R 3DT, 01-836 4360.

## • RESEARCH

### Study of noise in ships

AGAINST A background of increasing concern for the seafarer from the disturbing and sometimes harmful effects of noise, an earlier project began in 1975. As in the previous project, the Ship and Marine Technology Requirements board has given its support to a shipboard noise project proposed by the British Ship Research Association. The Department of Trade has recently published a Code of Practice for noise levels in Ships.

This is aimed at improving and has taken an active and supportive role for predicting noise porting interest in both of the levels in ships at the drawing BSRA projects. In the introduction stage, it will be conducted to the Code, the point is concerned in particular with made that the technology necessary to accommodate spaces, and ex-sary to ensure that every vessel meets its requirements is still in ships are planned by BSRA. A full-scale model of an accommodation space will be built to BSRA projects are directly controlled conditions to be made on BSA, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear NE28 6UY. Wallsend (0632) 25242.

any number of speakers can be included in the system, which comes no more expensive than standard equipment.

Reliance Systems, Turpells Mill Lane, Wellingborough, Northants.

## • RADIO & TV

### Clear calls without stridency

## • EXHIBITIONS

### Recovery of waste

PUBLIC ADDRESS systems tend to be strident, distracting and all too often incomprehensible. In libraries, offices and other areas where normal equipment would be disturbing there is a need for some other form of paging.

This, it is suggested by Reliance Systems, could take the form of their "Whisper Speaker" which runs at only six decibels above the ambient noise level for the area which it is installed, but provides such clear sound quality that messages are immediately understandable.

Because it is so quiet, it generally operates through name recognition by the person called — others would tend to ignore messages not intended for them, the developers assert.

No pre-announcement chime or call signal would be needed and

## • MATERIALS

### Prevents splinters from flying

SECURIFLEX IS the name of a new form of safety windscreens put on to the market by St. Gobain of France which makes the claim for it that, should the windscreens be shattered in any way, glass will not come into contact with the passengers.

This is achieved by adding internally an extra sheet of the tough plastic material to the sandwich of toughened glass/polyvinyl butyral/inner leaf of glass.

This plastic material, the composition of which is not disclosed, was developed by St. Gobain in its own laboratories and has been subjected to the most exhaustive tests, both in the U.S. and in Europe, to prove that it has, indeed, the properties ascribed to it in the company's speech band is used for transmitting the diagrams and there is no loss of speech quality.

Scribofon would undoubtedly be a great boon to police and fire brigades and there seem to be few obstacles to its rapid development with the great progress being made in microcircuit development at the moment. The only comparatively difficult piece of design is in the filter unit which separates speech signals from the pictures and is complex.

Like the extensive work this Philips group has done on TV-telephone systems, this particular project can be seen as a means of reducing the amount of travel senior staff have to undertake during the course of the year.

Further from Philips Indus-

tries, 8 Arundel Street, London WC2R 3DT, 01-836 4360.

The move follows the success of an earlier project begun in 1975. As in the previous project, the Ship and Marine Technology Requirements board has given its support to a shipboard noise project proposed by the British Ship Research Association. The Department of Trade has recently published a Code of Practice for noise levels in Ships.

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Reliance Systems, Turpells Mill Lane, Wellingborough, Northants.

## • PROCESSING

### Sterilises and cools cans

A SYSTEM designed to automatically sterilise and cool the length of the transfer and systems as there is much less metal mass to heat, less metal surface subject to radiation losses, and no air venting requirements.

It is with this technology that the company also manufactures cabs for Ley-

land, ERF, Seddon Atkinson, Scammell and Floor of Holland and builds bodies for Daimler Limousines. Designed for checking the accuracy of models, the standards room facilities are also used to carry out checks on cabs taken off production lines.

Dimensions of a cab for a Foden truck being checked in the new £70,000 standards room at the Coventry works of Motor Panels. A member of the Rubery Owen organisation, the company also manufactures cabs for Ley-

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## HOME NEWS

## RED DEER BREEDING EXPERIMENT

## State turns Highland laird

BY RAY PERMAN, SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT

THE STATE HAS turned Highland laird in a glen on the West Coast of Scotland to make an experiment which may have a significant effect on the economy of remote areas.

In March last year the Highlands and Islands Development Board bought the rundown Rahoy Estate on the Morvern Peninsula, Inverness-shire, as a site for the first attempt in Britain to farm red deer on a commercial scale.

The 3,800 acres of land round Loch Teacuis, much of it exposed hill covered with heather and bracken, cost £275,000. So far the board has spent £80,000 more renovating buildings, draining and reseeding fields on the lower ground, putting up two-metre-high deer fences, and building a breeding stock.

Private landowners from all over Scotland, including the Royal Family from the Balmoral estate, have co-operated in supplying deer calves, which have to be caught on the hill and taken from their mothers within a few days of birth to be successfully domesticated.

The stage have come from the Hill Farming Research Organisation's experimental farm. It will be two years before the herd is up to its full strength and before the first of the Rahoy-bred deer can be slaughtered.

The venture is a gamble. It has already been proved that red deer can be reared domestically, and there is strong evidence that they can make better use of poor land than sheep, hence the attraction for the Scottish Highlands, where large areas are unproductive.

But farmers and landowners remain sceptical. It has to be demonstrated that there is a market for venison in commercial quantities and that the high initial capital outlay can be recouped.

The Government, as well as



Mr. Mike Alexander, farm manager feeding calves meal to the deer.

private landowners must be convinced on this last point, since deer farming is unlikely to be accepted unless it becomes eligible for similar grants to those for raising cattle or sheep.

To test the potential market the board is financing a study by Stirling University in West Germany, which takes most of the deer exported from Scotland.

Mr. Mike Alexander, a farm manager, chosen from more than 60 applicants to run the project, believes it will be five years before firm conclusions can be reached.

"I would like to do it faster, but the deer will not let me. We just do not know what

detailed problems are going to be raised in managing a herd 300-strong in farming conditions."

Mr. John Bryden, head of the land use department of the Highlands Board, is looking to other forms of income for the estate, to support the deer project. Under private ownership some cottages were let to holidaymakers and under the board's control this side of the enterprise is being expanded.

The old schoolhouse and schoolroom have been converted to make attractive homes, and Rahoy House, the laird's residence, with lawns going down to the water's edge, is available for renting. Four cottages are to be built.

Fish farming on Loch Teacuis is also being considered. Before the board bought the estate its annual income was less than £15,000. By 1982 Mr. Bryden hopes it will have reached £80,000 at today's values.

He is adamant that Rahoy should not be seen as a model for the way in which the board would run estates if its controversial demands for powers of compulsory purchase over neglected land were accepted by the Government.

Too much of what is happening at Rahoy is experimental, and costs may have to be written off.

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The old schoolhouse and schoolroom have been converted to make attractive homes, and Rahoy House, the laird's residence, with lawns going down to the water's edge, is available for renting. Four cottages are to be built.

Fish farming on Loch Teacuis is also being considered. Before the board bought the estate its annual income was less than £15,000. By 1982 Mr. Bryden hopes it will have reached £80,000 at today's values.

He is adamant that Rahoy should not be seen as a model for the way in which the board would run estates if its controversial demands for powers of compulsory purchase over neglected land were accepted by the Government.

Too much of what is happening at Rahoy is experimental, and costs may have to be written off.

private landowners must be convinced on this last point, since deer farming is unlikely to be accepted unless it becomes eligible for similar grants to those for raising cattle or sheep.

To test the potential market the board is financing a study by Stirling University in West Germany, which takes most of the deer exported from Scotland.

Mr. Mike Alexander, a farm manager, chosen from more than 60 applicants to run the project, believes it will be five years before firm conclusions can be reached.

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# APPOINTMENTS

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- THIS appointment is with the European arm of a major American shipping line.
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Expanding manufacturing company, sales presently £2m, offers position of FINANCIAL DIRECTOR at c. £12,000 p.a. with car. To control one accountant and efficient staff and report to Chairman, South Hampshire. Comprehensive c.v. to Box A.6491, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

THE PERFECT VACANCY may not exist, but we will do our utmost to find the right person. Professional, Commercial and Industrial vacancies from Junior to Board level. Please telephone 01-834 8181. CIRCUIT, Financial & Accountancy Division, G. Lloyd's Avenue, London, E.C.3.

There will be no Jobs Column this week. Michael Dixon is ill.

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Ability to write clearly and handle figures. Only those with a good second-class honours degree, or better, need apply.

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The appointment as editor, which will be full-time, is most likely to interest either insurance executives wishing to make a career in financial information; or business/financial journalists with good background in and contacts with the industry.

In either case an international outlook and proven ability to write technically sound reports or articles concisely and under pressure is essential.

## Assistant editor, life and property/liability insurance

To work on the above long-term insurance publication and on existing general insurance information service. Experience in financial journalism and knowledge of the insurance industry are important assets.

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Those wishing to be considered for these assignments should write in confidence, outlining their professional experience and interests, to General Editor, Box A6500, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

## Electronics Editor

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Morgan-Grampian (Publishers) Ltd., 30 Calderwood Street, Woolwich, London SE18 8OH

## COMPANY NOTICES

### LYDENBURG PLATINUM LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

DIVIDEND DECLARATION

The estimated financial results of the company for the year ending 31st October 1978 are as follows:

Year ending 31st October 1978 1977

Net income before and after tax R978 090 R408 000

Dividends—per share—interim 6.75c 2.35c

—final 1.75c 0.93c

—total 6.80c 2.76c

—amount 14,400,001 14,400,001

R978 090 R408 000

Number of shares 14,400,001 14,400,001

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Company will be closed on 16th October, 1978, for that day only.

By order of the Board.

Samuel Williams, Secretary, Greville House, Greville Road, Caxton, Caxton.

REARDON SMITH LTD LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Company will be closed on 16th October, 1978, for that day only.

By order of the Board.

Samuel Williams, Secretary, Greville House, Greville Road, Caxton, Caxton.

TELLIN LTD.

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF BEARER DEPOSITARY RECEIPTS (BDR'S)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the general meeting of shareholders held in London on 15th October, 1978, will be entitled to receive a dividend of 15% to be paid to the holders of common stock of the company as of the close of business on 12th October, 1978.

After deduction of the Japanese withholding tax of 15%, paid by the relevant bank in Japan, the dividend will be paid to shareholders in the United Kingdom on 16th October, 1978, both B.D.R.'s held in London and B.D.R.'s held abroad as of 12th October, 1978.

Dividends will be disregarded.

Coupons on B.D.R.'s held in London will be sent to the transfer agent in London in order to claim the dividend.

Warrants will be posted by the transfer agent mentioned below or at the office of the transfer agent.

The full conditions of payment may be inspected at or obtained from the transfer agent or at the office of the transfer agent.

By order of the Board.

London Stock Exchange, 25 Broad Street, London EC2V 7LP, BARCLAYS PLATINUM INTERNATIONAL AS Depository.

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## The Management Page

EDITED BY CHRISTOPHER LORENZ

## A Wall Street baron steps down

John Wyles on how William Salomon built his challenge to the Thundering Herd

WILLIAM SALOMON is a nice and final arbiter of disputes," man, everyone agrees. His name is a byword for integrity and friend says that Salomon took a common sense. It is also conceded that he has no great bond house and by allowing a system apparently functions on the basis of extorting traders White Weld to capture the top Salomon, had found Smutny's leadership increasingly objectionable and in 1957 things came to a head with what Salomon calls a "palace revolt".

In that year the firm lost heavily on foreign securities and some stocks that Smutny had moved to buy, and the debacle was sufficient to prompt Salomon to lead a group of partners in

organising a general vote to demand Smutny's resignation. In 1958 William Salomon joined the administrative committee and in 1963 became the first managing partner and senior member of what had been renamed the executive committee.

The Smutny affair was clearly a decisive experience for William Salomon. "I could see that if we had another bad year we would be out of business," he says, recalling the anxiety of retiring at 65 pinned to a step with the emergence of global financial markets.

Another will be to encourage the growth under James Wolfensohn, until early last year chief executive in London of Schroders Ltd, of a corporate finance department which, though ten years old, is still lacking a client list with sufficient blue chip names to put it on a par with the prestigious "old line" houses, such as Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley and Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb.

However, Salomon has lived a long time with its brash

aristocratic image and there is little discernible regret at No. 1 New York Plaza about a lack of lineage.

In Gutfreund it has "a new managing partner greatly different in style from his predecessor. More hearty, more outgoing he allowed William Salomon to persuade him to come to Wall Street because I knew I was not a great actor, poet, dramatist or teacher.

He offered me a job which

required no more than some arithmetic and common sense." But there can be less than six figures but this is supplemented by annual payments of 5 per cent interest on individual capital and by the fact that individual income taxes are paid out of capital.

The agreement has guaranteed the flow of vital capital necessary not only to build up Salomon's eminent trading and underwriting position, but also to take the firm in new directions. Gutfreund has played a central role in developing its investment banking and one of

the early 1950s had fallen under the 49 general partners had his challenges at the head of Rothayn, a senior partner at along the years.

around \$15m in the firm (balancing capital is \$58.1m of international activities, based competence and the capital, but the firm will be to nurture its Lazard Frères. "They have the piece suits."

Mr. W. R. Salomon the managing partner (left) and Mr. J. H. Gutfreund the senior partner of Salomon Brothers

Thus William Salomon's securities, that is stocks, bonds retirement last Sunday at the and other instruments held for age of 64 from his post as managing partner is an event of some significance on Wall Street. He is handing over to broker dealing exclusively with John Gutfreund, 48, whom his institutions is based on a personally recruited in 1953, the readiness to handle virtually largest private partnership in any trade.

the U.S. securities industry, Salomon's flexibility and whose management is a complex mix of disciplined informality, creative improvisation and shrewd man-management. Like many other Wall Street brokerage houses, it pays lip-service to management concepts of structure and formal lines of responsibility but really hopes that they will never be fully implemented. Salomon is first and foremost interested in securities expertise.

## Arbiter

Employ professional managers? God no. By the time we have taught them the business will have changed, he says. His inclinations have given the firm somewhat different priorities. Edgar Aronson, one of the 49 general partners, says outsiders are often greatly intrigued by how the company manages to control the risks has been as "A people picker attendant on the enormous

PARTNERS PROFITS (LOSSES) BEFORE TAXES	
Profits (\$m)	Revenues (\$m)
1968 13.3	107.7
1969 15	123
1970 21	156
1971 54.9	228.1
1972 37	203.5
1973 (6.6)	154
1974 22	179
1975 46.3	247
1976 70	268
1977 55	313

## Louis Kleber on the problems created by new legislation

## The great U.S. pensions row

THE PROBLEMS of the Social Security system in the United States and the relationship of the system to the nation's massive private pension industry approach.

When Federally sponsored Social Security was established just over 40 years ago, it materially filled a critical need for millions of Americans who, prior to that time, could look forward to retirement with little more than the dreaded prospect of charity.

In 1972, the system, which has been self-financing through equal contributions by employers and employees, took a particularly significant step when the Social Security amendments provided for progressively higher dollar benefits, linked to inflation.

As a result, many individuals would eventually have received more in benefits than they earned while working.

The problem was aggravated by higher than anticipated inflation and unemployment.

Simply put, the system was on the road to going broke in a few years without a heavy infusion of money.

Last year, further Social Security amendments sought the needed funds through a drastic increase in the maximum taxable wage of American workers. It will jump from the 1973 level of \$17,700 to \$29,700 in 1981 and also require the employer and the employee to contribute a new high of 6.6 per cent each up to the taxable maximum.

Representative W. A. Steiger of Wisconsin views these increases as a "ticking time bomb."

Representative Al Ullman of Oregon would prefer the

adoption of a value-added tax to keep the Social Security system afloat—an abandonment of the historic self-financing private pension industry approach.

Other would-be solutions include funding from general taxation revenue, but this approach has met opposition

since it could open the door to indiscriminate and inflationary increases in benefits and cost.

Additionally, the general revenue approach carries with it the aura of a welfare scheme

rather than a participatory programme to which the worker has contributed.

Despite the misgivings, President Carter predicted that the new Social Security legislation would assure the soundness of the system for the next half-century. But who, in 1910, could have accurately assessed the social welfare realities of 1960?

So what now? Some quarters have even suggested a scrapping of individual employer sponsored pension schemes in favour of expanded Social Security pensions.

The Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Joseph Califano, Jr., stirred up a storm in a recent speech: "Are we comfortable with a system in which some retirees pile up the maximum Social Security benefits on top of generous pensions, while other retirees have no pension income and find Social Security barely enough to get by on?"

Looking at the future, he asked if it would make more sense to recoup the tax benefits employers get for their contributions to qualified private pension plans and apply them to more generous and widespread Social Security.

Understandably, Mr. Daniel's case, which is now before the Supreme Court. It hinges on the contention that a pension plan is a security, a view supported by the Securities Exchange Commission but opposed by the Department of Labor.

The Social Security debate cannot be divorced from the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) which was intended to strengthen the viability of private pensions. But along with its progressive and much-needed provisions, it created new headaches, particularly for small employers who have had to face complex and costly burdens in establishing new plans as well as maintaining those already in existence. In an effort to streamline the Act and remove some of its onerous requirements, the Senate's Williams of New Jersey and Javits of New York have introduced to the House a bill to improve the ERISA Act of 1978. Among other things, the proposed Act

If Daniel's case is upheld, the SEC view carries the day, a new set of compliance regulations and another powerful Federal agency would be added to the pension scene.

There are also potentially great financial ramifications, since the SEC view holds that a pension-security is essentially "sole" to the employee.

Mr. Daniel sued the International Brotherhood of Teamsters because he was denied a pension because he had had a short break in service during 20 years of employment. He claimed that misleading statements and failure to disclose material facts subjected the Teamsters to the anti-fraud provisions of the Federal Securities Act of 1933 and 1934.

If Daniel's case is upheld, the SEC view carries the day, a new set of compliance regulations and another powerful Federal agency would be added to the pension scene.

there may be numerous similar legislation that would bar the claims on employers and trustees of pension funds. The dollar impact could be heavy indeed.

To sum up, there is little likelihood that there will be any for the U.S. Department of Labor placed the potential liability at between \$3.5bn and \$3.8bn, depending on certain meeting retirement income factors.

To prevent this thickening of legislative action will be the pension soup, Senators Javits and Williams have introduced administration for employers.

## Business courses

Organisation and Management Effective Insurance Buying of R & D, Brunel University, London, November 13-16. Fee: £51.00. Details from Conference Co-ordinator, Risk Research Group (London), Bridge House, 151 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4.

Materials Management and Inventory Control in the Food and Drink Industries, APL Plus, London, October 26-27. Fee: £120 plus VAT. Details from ASM, 565 Fulham Road, London, SW6.

## BUILDING SOCIETY RATES

Every Saturday the Financial Times publishes a table giving details of Building Society Rates on offer to the public.

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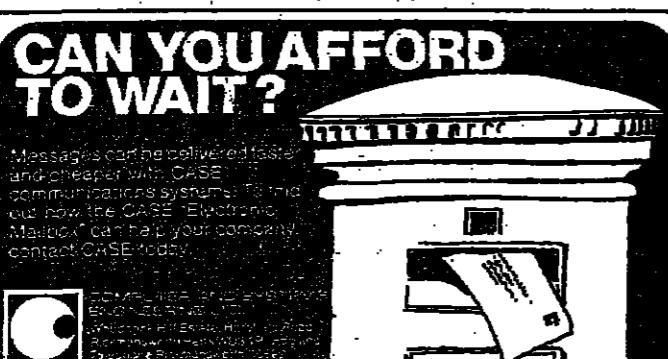
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# The UK's double standards

BY GUY DE JONQUIERES in Brussels

IT HAS recently become fashionable for British ministers and senior officials to scold the Bonn Government for preaching free trade in industrial goods, while tolerating, if not actually abetting, the most protectionist features of the EEC's Common Agricultural Policy. How, they ask, can the Germans justify such an open contradiction, especially in the light of their constant carping about the cost of the CAP?

The question has point, all the more so since it is now clear that German farmers are responsible for an increasing share of CAP surpluses. But the argument cuts both ways.

The Germans might well ask, in return, by what logic Britain precludes its campaign for lower food prices through a reform of the CAP with its demands for imports of manufactured goods which effectively deprive consumers of access to the least costly sources of supply.

## Farming vote

The simple answer in both cases is, of course, that all governments operate double standards. It is more important for the Bonn coalition to keep Bavarian farmers sweet than it is for Mr. Callaghan and his colleagues to court the farm vote in Britain. Consider the present large numbers of textile and steel workers being thrown out of their jobs in electorally more worrying to the Labour Government than it is to Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

There is nothing very surprising about this, though in the end it makes the adoption of EEC attitudes by EEC governments seem rather redundant. As if to prove the point, the British Government have recently been displaying a degree of truculence over the implementation of the EEC's textiles imports policy which, in another context, would do credit to the most diehard defender of the CAP.

The great bulk of troublesome textile imports entering the UK from outside the EEC is now strictly controlled by bilateral agreements concluded by the European Commission with Asian, Latin American and some East European supplier countries late last year. But as growth in supplies from these sources has subsided, part of the slack has been taken up by an increase in exports from the Mediterranean countries.

The Mediterranean countries pose two types of problem. First, most of them enjoy a privileged commercial status underwritten by their association or preferential

## Small share

The Industry Department would no doubt argue that what matters is not the level of imports from a given country but the cumulative impact of all imports on the UK market.

The UK has long objected to the application of the same principle to its exports to the U.S., where an anomaly of trade law allows anti-dumping duties to be imposed on imports rather than on goods that they have materially injured the domestic industry. Only a few days ago Britain joined its EEC partners in threatening to discontinue the GATT trade negotiations unless the Carter Administration can secure an extension beyond next January of its authority to waive countervailing duties.

FOR THOSE concerned with a comprehensive studio or outside broadcast side broadcast camera or television, the last three or indeed, adapted for simple four years have been a period of quite dramatic change. The Link Electronics, a British company with considerable exporting successes, exhibited at the International Broadcasting Convention was on display last week in London when the International Broadcasting Convention was such a camera last week. This will certainly be a winner in Third World countries, where the cost of three or four quite different cameras for various jobs is unacceptable.

Cost is thus a dominating factor. Hence one of the other trends of recent years — away from the large, expensive 2 inch quadraphex videotape recorders to the smaller, 1 inch high scan machines and now to even 4 inch videocassette recorders. At one time it was unthinkable that the semi-professional video-cassette recorder would ever satisfy broadcast standards — but the Sony U-Matic format now appears in a specification that has been accepted by the European Broadcasting Union. It is already in broadcast use in a number of countries around the world.

An innovation of the past two years which offers substantial savings in production costs is Scene-Sync — a British idea exhibited last week by Evershed Power-Optics. Even for the non-engineer, Scene-Sync is great fun, providing a novel way of superimposing very realistic optical head which can offer, with a few attachments, almost the portability of an ENG camera or can be built up into

as Chroma-Key; one camera records the background picture, and by electronic means in the scanning, it automatically leaves a "hole" where the foreground subject — recorded on a second camera — is superimposed.

The problem with Chroma-Key is that movement of the subject camera is impossible — because the background perspective remains stationary. Scene-Sync overcomes the problem by providing an electro-mechanical link between the movement of the subject camera and the sending location. TV news report on which the background picture is attached; as the sub-

ject camera will be automatically followed by the background camera, too.

Another British development which even hit the ITN television bulletins last week is the Independent Broadcasting Authority's so-called transportable spare station. In fact, this is an earth station for relay TV signals to satellites for relay to other earth stations — but it is transportable (on a lorry). It thus provides the means for sending location TV news reports direct from almost anywhere in the world.

## FILM AND VIDEO

BY JOHN CHITTOCK

ject camera moves, the background picture (under the second camera) automatically moves with it — in perfect synchronisation (even though the picture is much smaller and the scale of movement thus reduced).

The effect is quite staggering. A studio camera can track in, up, crane down to floor level — and the perspective view of signal variation coming from the apparent background of the Swiss Alps or Fifth Avenue will With an inherently simpler change as it should. Evershed has now added a refinement to electronic processing and control whereby lens zooming on the

subject camera will be automatically followed by the background camera, too.

The other big change ahead is being pioneered by the TV data systems, teletext and viewdata. These innovations were another dominant theme at IBC, and two new developments were of particular interest to dealers:

The BBC has introduced a hard copy output device, enabling teletext users to have a print-out of teletext data.

Rather like very small, desktop calculator with a paper roll print-out, the machine faithfully reproduces whatever teletext page is being displayed on the TV set to which it is connected. The future for this development now depends on commercial interest — especially in the provision of the programming services needed to feed the system.

Britain has certainly become a Mecca as well as a fertile nursery for new ideas in television engineering. A note of cynicism creeps in, however, from some of the people to whom I spoke. A plateau must be in sight. Improvement and development is becoming too costly, too uncertain and maybe in the end socially unnecessary.

## Prospective champion Carson rides six fancied runners

WILLIE CARSON, already assured of regaining the jockeys' championship, he lost to Pat Shilton last year, looks like not taking advantage of the winners at 6 lb he receives from Lester Goodwood this afternoon. Here Piggott's mount, The Nail, in reason Why You Lose? at Racing

can be recommended. With

Written by Freddie North and Jeremy Flint this work should be of genuine help to people who like to bet regularly on horse racing. The occasional flutter. Its 13 chapters include interesting pieces on "Going to the races" and "The changing year". The last-named chapter gives admirable advice on bets to be avoided and propositions worth considering.

Why You Lose? at Racing is published by Cassell at £3.95.

**RACING**  
BY DOMINIC WIGAN

162 winners, has well fended in all six races.

Two who seem sure to go particularly well for him on this jackpot-supported programme are Murat and Northleach. The first, a stable-mate to Cistus, who justified massive race course support in Sunday's Prix de l'Opera, at Longchamp with a head victory over the fast-finishing Reine Imperial.

Later in the afternoon Piggott's mount, the John Winter-trained Gypsy Castle, seems likely to have the measure of Carson's course and distance winner, II

Goodwood 2.00 — Portola 2.30 — Mura 2.60 — Lustro 3.00 — Falls of Lora 3.40 — Gypsy Castle\* 4.30 — Gypsy Castle\*

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If he can reproduce the form which saw him falling by only a length to peg back the more than useful Kithnos in Edinburgh's Dalkeith Handicap a fortnight ago the Arundel three-year-old should prove capable of getting the better of Tarzan from whom he receives 9 lb.

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St. George's,  
Hanover Square

## Messiah

by NICHOLAS KENYON

There are only 83 Messiah days to Christmas, and it was wise of Roger Norrington to launch his new version on Sunday night at the beginning of this regular (though unfashionable—Messiah is an Easter piece) season. For his was no ordinary Messiah: the novelty of its sounds and the originality of its answers to the oratorio's countless problems will remain in the mind and ear, I suspect, through many future performances under more conventional conductors.

Small-scale Messiahs are nothing new, but this was the first to use an orchestra of baroque instruments, and the first to omit featured soloists, relying instead on singers from the 16-voice choir. The playing was an unqualified success. Rarely have I heard such an orchestral string playing so unanimous and yet so highly characterised; this other rare achievement has also been one which Mr. Norrington's hand has been there to force, cajole and persuade his players into effects they might not have attempted conductorless. Quavers swept together into real phrases, instead of rapped out separately (most impressively in the big choruses); strings shivering with glassy precision in "Why do the nations?" and "for he is like a refiner's fire"; and a well-turned completion of four oboes and three bassoons adding their perky stabs to Handel's distinctive blanched orchestra.

Vocal Norrington's solutions were highly questionable. An admirably detailed essay in the programme by Anthony Hicks told us that the Foundling Hospital performance used the male Chapel Royal choir of 19, plus five operatic soloists who probably joined in the choruses. Norrington used this to justify his practice (already featured in several Schütz Choir miniaturisations) of using all his choristers as soloists in turn. But the point about Handel's own *Messiah* performances is that the soloists were famous, dramatic, skilled, and drawn from the opera house. Schütz Choir members, with a couple of exceptions, are not, and almost all the soloists were correspondingly undifferentiated.

On the other hand, neither did the singer make an ideal chorus. The blended reasonably well, and put into effect many of Norrington's refreshingly unconventional mixes with efficiency and skill—here was strength and purpose (rather than the usual relax sentimentality) in their "peal on earth" and "the kingdom of our God," and real detach singing in the block chords "Worthy is the Lamb" and "For unto us a child is born." But I longed alternately for the pure homogeneity of a boys-and-men choir, or the real sight of a slightly larger body. Did Norrington consider a performance with, say, Christ Church Choir and Kent Opera soloists? Nevertheless, most rewarding evening: well (if artfully) planned, thoroughly prepared, and endlessly stimulating.

## Covent Garden

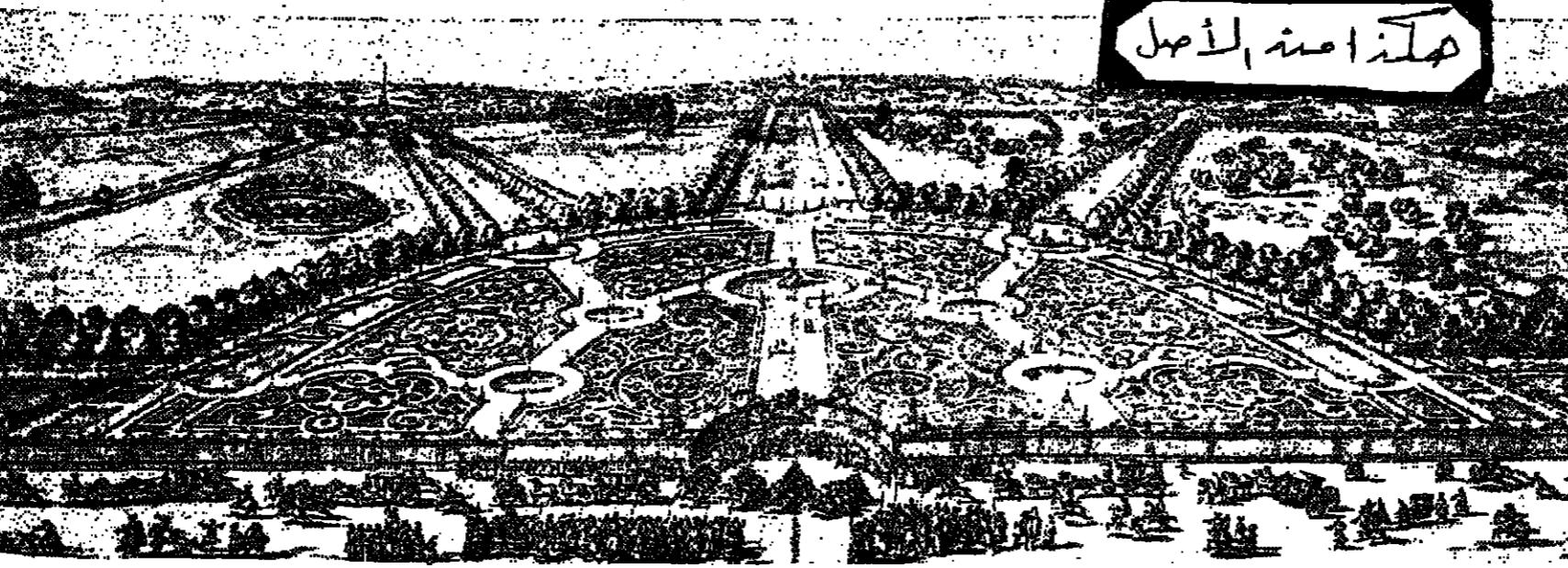
## Das Rheingold

The later parts of the second *Ring* cycle have exchanges but there were none in last night's *Rheingold*—which leaves only dribs and drabs to be said. Colin Davis was remarkably successful in forecasting the sweep and scope of the whole tetralogy while keeping the size of this *Rheingold* within preludial bounds. *Rheingold* is "early" in two ways—in the context of Wagner's work as a whole and as part of the *Ring* cycle writing and composition to up so much of his career. Son of the music (Freia's, especially) has a kind of freshness which was not to reappear, and this aspect of the score was finely judged.

With a set like *Syboda* for the Friedrich premiere, it is presumably inevitable that the first two parts will be given on consecutive evenings. Yet this inevitably entails a certain amount of holding back for *Wuktüre* for the singers (she). One felt this last night (in Donald McIntyre's *Wotan* and with Josephine Evans's *Frija*). He as usual, had some forceful phrases (how well he shows anger and frustration) and some expressive ones after the disappearance of Freia and her golden apples, yet neither you have given anyone hearing the for the first time much idea of their full Wagnerian potential. There is something to be said for the old solution of changing the singers of the big roles that recur.

The choicest singing came from Robert Lloyd as *Fasolt*—absolutely clear, even fine, splendid tone-quality. Miti Salminen's brother giant *Fafner* was also grand, as usual, but sacrificed more to characterisation without making more effect. Rachel Yarker's *Freia* earns her a chance to show Covent Garden audiences what a charming and stylish artist she is. Hermann Becht's *Donner* produced a volume of sound worthy of his mighty hammer-blow. Patrick Payne's *Erda* was imposing (if only the Coliseum *Erda* was able to appear like this at the front of the stage); the remaining performers were much as before, though: the *Rheinmaidens* blended poorly in the first scene, where the mixture of amplified and unamplified sound is very nasty.

RONALD Crichton



Daniel Marot's initial design for the gardens of Hampton Court Palace.

## Re-discovering English gardens by Dr. ROY STRONG

During the summer we went to Westbury-upon-Severn to see one of the National Trust's most imaginative ventures, the restoration and re-creation of the formal gardens laid out by a lesser Restoration opulence. At the head of the garden is a terrace of the *Duchess of Lauderdale* transformed Ham into the epitome of gardens laid out by a lesser *Cooper*, at the close of the 17th century. Alas, the manor house has been swept away, but what not. Every case has to be argued on its merits and on the rectangular canal, its stately walks made of lily and yew and its patterned flower beds, have been put back. The canal

at its head is a pretty redbrick pavilion from the upstairs windows of which the visitor can look down on to the geometry of the garden but in an earlier age it was also possible to look to the river beyond. In short we found ourselves actually walking into one of those aerial views of country houses published by Kip in his *Britannia Illustrata* at the start of the 18th century. And what a delight it was!

Ham House is the scene of a Lindstrum of the University of York has just supervised work

on investigating a single riding on the gardens of the house as we of Yorkshire which alone threw up some 2,000 gardens of

know them to have been in their day, when the Duke and Duchess of Lauderdale transformed Ham into the epitome of gardens raised as many problems, what should be put back and what not. Every case has to be argued on its merits and on the availability of evidence (and money).

In the case of Ham, for instance, the garden which preceded that of the Lauderdale's, that of Sir Thomas Vavasour, was certainly far more important. But garden history and archaeology are in their infancy. Most people probably have not even begun to think of a garden in these terms but they should. We still have no listing of gardens in this country and as research is still barely beyond the exploratory stages, such listing could never arise anyway above the rudimentary. Dr

What we now need carefully to consider is how to restore and

re-create those of the missing Isaac de Caus for the Earl of Pembroke.

Chewening House is a case in point. The great house of the Earls of Stanhope in Kent was left by its last lord as a residence for the Prince of Wales. Restoration has transformed the ruined

wreck into an early Georgian house of great style matching its

appearance in the engraving by Kip at the beginning of the 18th century. That aerial view also records its marvellous gardens, totally in the French manner, house and garden locked together axially in a geometrical

pattern. From this there ought to emerge an increasing awareness of garden history, for too often taken for granted. Out of it, too, should arise the possibilities of restoration and re-creation. Thanks to that monster Capability Brown and his followers, England, alone in Europe, suffered the wanton destruction of two hundred years of its garden history swept away by lawns, hills, irregular lakes and clumps of trees. We have an embarras de riches of landscape gardens.

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## FINANCIAL TIMES

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## SWISS EXPORTS

# Risks and rewards of the rise of the franc

## Without a mandate

THE KNOW-NOTHING votes at gant wage claims which some the Labour conference on unions are now presenting, incomes policy and economic ought to be possible. strategy are not altogether surprising; it is the first or to be reached in the very few weeks available. Mr. Callaghan of a party in office has been will have to talk more realistically about the aims of policy. The Government has talked only about checking inflation; it feels that there is no need to have pointed out that a wage take any notice of what Mr. Sidney Weighill, of the a firmly anti-inflationary National Union of Railwaymen, tary policy would do as much to raise unemployment as to raise prices.

In any case, it is not very clear that government restraints have had any very startling effect on the average rise in earnings; it has been within a point or two of what an unstrained monetary forecast would suggest and is likely to do again. However, the extra 1 per cent or 2 per cent would not have gone to workers in general, but to a handful in an exceptionally strong bargaining position.

What is really wanted from the unions, by the CBI as much as by the Government, is a collective commitment to realism, immovable policy cannot be justified by the irresistible pre-

judice of its opponents, and the unions want to be trusted, as Mr. Joe Gormley demanded, for authority. Although he has been likened to Moses, Mr. Callaghan does not claim that his policies are divinely inspired, nor are they graven in stone.

Democratic government is in the last resort government by consent; and unless the Prime Minister can contrive a policy which has at least the grudging consent of those affected, there seems little reason why Parliament should in November renew his authority to carry on by sheer willpower.

That consent must somehow be wrung from the TUC. Mr. Callaghan and his Ministers now stand beyond retreat for the doctrine that their brand of Socialism includes some planning of the growth of incomes: but this need not mean a rigid single-figure norm. The norm is there, as Mr. Weighill pointed out, because the TUC refused to accept any responsibility for orderly bargaining.

That whole approach has now been formally rejected both by the TUC and by the conference: but by yesterday evening, some of the Government's most outspoken opponents seemed appalled by the consequences of their own victory. If the TUC is half as flexible as it is asking the Prime Minister to be, some compromise, which is a movement and not a rabble, would allow for the adjustment and that they lead it. Failing that, the party has voted for its own defeat.

## New optimism on SALT

BOTH Washington and Moscow are once again making encouraging noises about prospects for the signature of a new strategic arms limitation agreement (SALT II). At the end of last week, President Carter said he hoped that agreement could be reached by the end of the year, and both sides agreed that there had been "some movement" during the latest round of negotiations that finished in Washington at the weekend. Mr. Cyrus Vance, the U.S. State Secretary, is now to fly to Moscow for further talks with Mr. Andrei Gromyko, his Soviet counterpart, in the second half of this month.

### Overdue

It is, of course, easy to be cynical about such optimistic pronouncements. They sound remarkably similar to the forecasts of imminent agreement that have been heard on numerous occasions in recent months. After the Vance-Gromyko meeting in Moscow last April, the Americans said they were reasonably confident that the five-year-long negotiations could be finally wrapped up at a summit meeting between President Carter and Mr. Brezhnev some time in July.

The final stage of such negotiations is inevitably the most difficult. For many months, the Americans have been claiming that 95 per cent of the new agreement is already incorporated in the voluminous draft text that already exists. It is also generally thought that Mr. Brezhnev and President Carter will want to take the credit for resolving a couple of important issues when they finally meet. As no Carter-Brezhnev summit has yet been announced, the assumption must be that a number of serious gaps still remain concluded by the end of the year. It is high time for much greater attention to be focused on what lies beyond it.

SWISS EXPORTERS, like Swiss securities. The reasoning behind the relaxations in part Germany, have been crying that low interest rates will help to tether the franc.

It is difficult to persuade oneself that the latest appreciation of the Swiss franc will place them in a greater extent from conflicts between several objectives pursued in Berne. Thus there is a general revision against interference with the freedom of international business, lest it suppose that the moment of crisis may have arrived.

The note of anxiety in Berne is unmistakable. Dr. Fritz Leutwiler, Governor of the central bank, has described the strength of the Swiss currency as ridiculous and suggestions that have been made that a determination not to

stimulatory measures may be to impair the position of Zurich required next year to save the Swiss economy from a severe set-back. What is perhaps more revealing is that Berne has the foreigner, even if he is trying to ride on the coat tails of the measures that have been applied and re-applied in the past in similar situations. The impression is hard to avoid that the authorities are themselves puzzled by the problem.

### Doubled in value

One figure alone really suffices to show the size of the problem. Trade-weighted, the value of the Swiss franc has more than doubled in value since 1971, compared with the currencies of the customers of the Swiss. Much of that appreciation, of course, has had nothing to do with trade as such: capital movements into a country of political stability and with not too inquisitive a tax collector have been the mainspring. For that reason the Swiss have taken a succession of measures intended to ward off capital inflows. It would be wrong to write them off as a failure, since nobody could possibly tell how high the franc would have been without them. But the fact remains that the desired effect was not achieved.

The defensive measures reached a high point early this year when foreigners were barred from purchasing Swiss securities (except for a quota of franc-denominated loans raised on behalf of foreign borrowers), and when a punitive levy of 10 per cent a quarter was imposed upon franc deposits held in Swiss banks on behalf of non-residents. Even then, it was clear that loopholes could be found, for instance by placing money not with a bank but with a life insurance company. As part of the new policy now painfully evolving in Berne, the measures have in part actually been softened. The non-resident quota in foreign loans has been raised, and the purchase of Swiss securities is permitted to non-residents provided they are only reinvesting the proceeds of the sale of other

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# Bank of England's new industrial role

BY MARGARET REID

THOSE WHO think the solution to Britain's economic problems lies in grappling with individual industrial problems as much as in applying the right national monetary and tax policies are to be found not only in Whitehall and in company board-rooms.

One of the chief among them is Mr. Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, under whose regime since mid-1973 the Bank has developed a new and important involvement in sorting out the difficulties of certain industries and even individual companies.

So quiet has the Bank's intervention been that little is generally known about it. Yet, in addition to its known role in assisting the revamping of the baking industry and in the slimming down, with appropriate financing arrangements, of Spillers, which has withdrawn from bread-making, it has played a discreet and unpublicised part in relation to the unravelling of problems at certain other well-known companies.

For instance, when J. Lyons faced serious headaches two years ago through the boost given to the burden of its large overseas borrowings by the steep fall in the pound, the Bank kept a close and sympathetic eye on arrangements for combating the difficulty. A series of disposals—of hotels and other assets—which was carried out by the company allowed debt to be steadily cut back, and, as it happened, J. Lyons is now being acquired in a much-discussed £64m takeover by the giant Allied Breweries. The Bank, however, in no way initiated this merger, which is taking place with Lyons having reduced its borrowings, though they are still large.

Because of the confidential five years to a 20-strong team, Committee on financial institutions has clearly shown, there is no shortage of sources of capital for industry, though knowledge of them may sometimes be inadequate. It is not difficult to imagine that, among eligible suppliers of finance for any appropriate modernisation or expansion of the clothing industry, would be Equity Capital for Industry, the City's equity bank which has as yet done relatively little business, and Finance for Industry, the bank-backed body which has also been searching hard for enough suitable lending outlets.

An initiative by the Bank of England in response to the scarcity of funds in the dark cash-squeezed days of the winter of 1974-75 led, in May 1976, to the controversial setting up of Equity Capital, which is backed by over 360 investing institutions and by FFI. The Bank itself owns 15 per cent of FFI, the rest of whose capital is held by the big banks.

The Koppel inquiry was completed some months ago and its results have, since then, been under discussion with industry, representatives of the City and government departments, as the Bank's annual report in July stated. These discussions followed many others in recent years through the industry's Economic Development Committee, and in other ways, about assisting the clothing industry.

Further action following up the Koppel inquiry is probably not now far away. It is widely expected that one of the objectives which may be emphasised will be the need to take the industry more up-market to distinguish its role further from that of its mass-production rivals in the East. The Bank would obviously be concerned with any necessary fortification of the industry's finances.

As evidence to the Wilson Committee on Finance for Industry (headed by Lord Roll, chairman of S. G. Warburg, the City merchant bank) of the National Economic Development Council did not make a final recommendation on the desirability of launching such a scheme—the kind run in the U.S. by the Small Businesses Administra-

tion in Britain. Within the Bank of England's sizeable Industrial Finance Unit one area where expertise is being enlarged is in the computer study of company statistics. The unit has, for the past few months, been taking the Datastream service, which is used to study ratios of the various kinds cherished by analysts. Borrowing figures, gearing ratios and other measures of companies' situation and health are scrutinised.

It does not appear that the Bank, at present at least, uses the computer statistical service of emerging corporate problems. But the service plays a valuable role for the comparison of the position of any individual concern which is being looked at with the averages for its own sector, and could be used extensively for varied other studies.

One important aspect of the Bank's position vis-à-vis industry is that its team of eight Agents in regional centres, including Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds and Glasgow, keeps in close touch with industrial trends in the areas and relays the resultant information to the Bank. The results of this service are also made available to the Government.

The links the Bank thus maintains with the regions have been reinforced lately through periodic visits of some of the Bank's directors and other senior staff to the various centres, where social gatherings are held with local industrialists to advance discussion of relevant issues.

Communications Centre, a guide to financial sources called "Money for Business." Copies of this booklet, price 5s, are obtainable through banks or accountants or direct from the Bank of England itself.

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The Bank sees its role as doing good behind the scenes as easier if companies with a problem come to it in good time. This appears to happen more often nowadays.

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tion in Britain. But the report did say that an experiment might be worthwhile. As a result, the Bank is at present engaged in much preparatory work about the form which such a scheme could take if it were eventually launched.

The Bank is most reluctant to discuss its "fireman" role in the section of the Bank's annual report on Industrial Finance which was, significantly, considerably longer than in earlier years' reports.

A glimpse of its role was, however, given in one sentence of its latest annual report in the section on Industrial Finance which was, significantly, considerably longer than in earlier years' reports:

"The Bank are also concerned with the problems facing particular sections of industry, especially where their solution may involve extensive financial re-arrangement" the report said.

The next passage referred to the Koppel report on the clothing industry and the resultant consultations as a specific

instance of the Bank's general about its activities was so total shareholding and might be willing to help the company or to financial sources called "Money for Business." Copies of this booklet, price 5s, are obtainable through banks or accountants or direct from the Bank of England itself.

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## Letters to the Editor

### Protectionism and the weak

From Mr. W. Calvert

Sir—Your editorial "Protectionism hurts the weak" (September 27) shows some lack of awareness of the issues faced by governments of developed countries in dealing with low cost imports.

In the footwear industry, which is not atypical of many consumer goods industries, published figures indicate that approximately three-quarters of the world's shoe making capacity currently operates behind non-tariff barriers or in most cases complete bans on imports. Thus, trade for most of this world is already regulated or simply prevented. The only markets of any significance that have remained open are West Europe (with non-EEC countries protected by high tariffs) and the U.S.

It follows that, while we have to contend with the concentrated marketing efforts of all the world's most powerful footwear exporting countries on our home market, our exports are shut-out from most markets in return ideally we would like to see the barriers erected against us removed: we believe that we would be fully competitive on level terms in open markets. This practice for various reasons is undesirable and hence the only course apart from suicide is to erect our own barriers.

It is also too simple a picture to imply that strong countries are protecting themselves against weak countries. In our industry the weakest countries tend to have no exporting capability at all. In recent years the fastest growing exporters have been a few newly industrialised countries who have developed their industries behind bars on imports and who in many cases are now running comfortable balance of payments surpluses. With their low wages, long hours of work, easy access to Western technology, design ideas and markets, and their refusal to accept imports in return they hold all the cards in a growing number of industries and can in no sense be portrayed simply as the weak.

W. N. S. Calvert,  
British Footwear Manufacturers Federation,  
Royalty House, 72, Dean Street,  
W.I.

### Restraint of competition

From the Director,  
The Knitting Industries' Federation

Sir—I am dismayed by the short-sighted hypothesis expounded in your leader of September 27 under the emotive heading of "Protectionism hurts the weak."

It is accepted that no reasonable person should attempt to argue against the paramount need to promote international trading policies which will advance the often unacceptable socio-economic situation in the less developed countries. This must, however, surely not be achieved at the expense of sacrificing established and essential industries in the developed world, which, like textiles and clothing, are largely employers of labour.

In spite of a reduction of 1m over the past decade, over 1m workers continue to be employed in textiles and clothing in the EEC, representing 10 per cent of total employment. Many of these workers are female, with limited job mobility, who are in regions where the unemployment rate is high. The method of imposing the ban (by cancellation of licences already issued) was particularly criticised, since this completely disregards the problems for producer and consumer in the market.

Because of the confidential five years to a 20-strong team, Committee on financial institutions has clearly shown, there is no shortage of sources of capital for industry, though knowledge of them may sometimes be inadequate. It is not difficult to imagine that, among eligible suppliers of finance for any appropriate modernisation or expansion of the clothing industry, would be Equity Capital for Industry, the City's equity bank which has as yet done relatively little business, and Finance for Industry, the bank-backed body which has also been searching hard for enough suitable lending outlets.

An initiative by the Bank of England in response to the scarcity of funds in the dark cash-squeezed days of the winter of 1974-75 led, in May 1976, to the controversial setting up of Equity Capital, which is backed by over 360 investing institutions and by FFI. The Bank itself owns 15 per cent of FFI, the rest of whose capital is held by the big banks.

The Koppel inquiry was completed some months ago and its results have, since then, been under discussion with industry, representatives of the City and government departments, as the Bank's annual report in July stated. These discussions followed many others in recent years through the industry's Economic Development Committee, and in other ways, about assisting the clothing industry.

Further action following up the Koppel inquiry is probably not now far away. It is widely expected that one of the objectives which may be emphasised will be the need to take the industry more up-market to distinguish its role further from that of its mass-production rivals in the East. The Bank would obviously be concerned with any necessary fortification of the industry's finances.

As evidence to the Wilson Committee on Finance for Industry (headed by Lord Roll, chairman of S. G. Warburg, the City merchant bank) of the National Economic Development Council did not make a final recommendation on the desirability of launching such a scheme—the kind run in the U.S. by the Small Businesses Administra-

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A question of a different character at present occupying the Bank is the idea of a possible bank loan guarantee scheme for small and medium-sized firms which have exhausted their unsupported ability to borrow. In its recent report, the reconstituted Committee on Finance for Industry (headed by Lord Roll, chairman of S. G. Warburg, the City merchant bank) of the National Economic Development Council did not make a final recommendation on the desirability of launching such a scheme—the kind run in the U.S. by the Small Businesses Administra-

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It does not appear that the Bank, at present at least, uses the computer statistical service of emerging corporate problems. But the service plays a valuable role for the comparison of the position of any individual concern which is being looked at with the averages for its own sector, and could be used extensively for varied other studies.

One important aspect of the Bank's position vis-à-vis industry is that its team of eight Agents in regional centres, including Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds and Glasgow, keeps in close touch with industrial trends in the areas and relays the resultant information to the Bank. The results of this service are also made available to the Government.

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## COMPANY NEWS

### Marshall Cavendish down £0.6m—sees improvement

WITH RESULTS depressed by the failure of a new weekly magazine and the postponement of a major partwork launch because of an industrial dispute, taxable profit of Marshall Cavendish fell to £174,000 in the 26 weeks to June 30, 1978, compared with £217,000 in the first 24 weeks last year.

Directors say, however, that the group has had a successful programme of autumn partwork launches and that profits for the full year should be about £24m, compared with last year's £30m.

Sales for the period were £95.7m, again £8.2m, and after tax of £20.8m (£18.0m) net profit was £7.6m (£7.8m). Earnings per 10p share are given at 1.315p against 2.32p.

There were minority interests of £11,000 (£11,000), and attributable profit came out at £26.5m (£26.4m).

The interim dividend is 1.34p, against 1.35p last year and a final payment similar to last year's 1.35p net is forecast.

#### • comment

Marshall Cavendish's attempt to break into the weekly magazine market has proved to be an expensive failure. "Faces" magazine, launched only 12 issues ago, left the company with losses in excess of £500,000. This, coupled with industrial disputes meant that pre-tax profits in the 26 weeks to June 30, 1978 were 52 per cent down. Directors are pinning their second half hopes on three new partwork launches. On the plus side, "Sleek" by Silken and "Football Handbook." The first of the three, which is designed for car, handymen and spread over 48 issues, is shaping up to be one of the most successful publications of the Cavendish group. If the three live up to expectations, pre-tax profits for the year should reach £22.4m.

With the share price at 2.32p this gives a p/e of 8.8 and a yield of 13.2 per cent (assuming dividend is maintained).

#### KCA DIVIDEND

The chairman of KCA International, Mr. P. Bristol, said at the AGM that the company would

return to paying a proper dividend as soon as practical. It may be clear until the autumn shows

only a nominal amount at present.

Mr. Bristol forecast an increase in profits for the current year.

### Downturn at Percy Lane

FOR THE first half of 1978 taxable profit dropped from £182,000 to

£105,000 (£182,000) net profit was £76,000 (£78,000). Earnings per 10p share are given at 1.315p against 2.32p.

There were minority interests of £11,000 (£11,000), and attributable profit came out at £26.5m (£26.4m).

The interim dividend is 1.34p, against 1.35p last year and a final payment similar to last year's 1.35p net is forecast.

#### • comment

Percy Lane's half-time figures are as poor as the company's long-range warnings earlier this year suggested; unfortunately, the turnover forecast then for the second half is by no means assured.

Current output for Europe as a whole was 20 per cent down in the first half of the year and the immediate prospects for the industry, which has an

August/July order cycle, will not

be known until October 27 at noon.

They now report that work has

taken place. The small sales improvement in the UK in the first half largely stems from the group's architectural window division; the Scottish building/window interests, however, are still in decline.

Marshall Cavendish's dispute-clute business has been hit by the downturn in the Middle East construction industry. Threatened strikes at BOC, one of its major suppliers, are also hanging over the group, which is already starting to withdraw from carpet after having enlarged three factories last year in anticipation of higher sales.

Assuming a dividend increased by 10 per cent the shares yield a comfortable 11.6 per cent at 48p.

Although in the UK construction market there are some signs of revival in demand, growth will remain sluggish, while in France the market is still declining with an inevitable and costly requirement to reduce staff numbers.

On the other hand, the re-equipment of the motor industry, which with Carrier Drysys is much concerned, continues apace in most countries, especially in the US, where the subsidiary has been awarded a number of significant contracts.

In the Middle East, where the group experienced much difficulty last year, the situation is still improving. Even so, with the high cost of supporting UK overheads, together with a conservative approach to the valuation of work in progress, there will be a significant loss from this area in 1978, though at a reduced level compared with 1977.

Work is proceeding to plan, and as several more satisfactory contracts come on stream the

directors expect improved results from the Middle East operations in the following year.

The final dividend is planned to be lower than the £4.83m declared in the last year. Meanwhile, the group's Carrier Drysys, metal finishing activities are likely to boost profits by up to £2m, again mainly from the US markets.

More worrying are the UK building and engineering sectors, action again failing for nearly a half of group turnover, which have experienced pressure on margins although there has been a revival in demand. And across the channel the group is shouldering a heavy redundancy programme which will add around £200,000 to costs. For the full year—Haden Carrier will have little trouble in making £1.5m, compared with £4.83m. On the basis of the first 12.5m and on a prospective p/e of 12.5, so clearly the market is expecting something better of the group. The shares yield an attractive 10.8 per cent.

#### • comment

Haden Carrier is showing signs of recovery in the first half after a difficult trading twelve months.

The main cause of the trouble has been two Middle East contracts which were finalised in 1977.

Work is proceeding to plan, and as several more satisfactory contracts come on stream the

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## Haden Carrier £1.03m

### on better sales trend

#### INDEX TO COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS

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## ISSUE NEWS AND COMMENT

### Crosby House loss

#### £0.47m loan issue

CROSBY HOUSE, the freight under the Temporary Employment Subsidy scheme amounting to £50,000 for the first half of 1978. This subsidy is being reviewed this month.

The directors believe the rights money, together with the inflow of compensation from Sri Lanka, will give the group sufficient working capital until its trading operations can again generate a positive cash flow.

#### • comment

Crosby is clearly in a position where a conventional rights issue was out of the question; the issue of deferred equity, however, should solve the immediate problem of cash shortfalls while giving subscribers something of an income.

The directors believe the rights money, together with the inflow of compensation from Sri Lanka, will give the group sufficient working capital until its trading operations can again generate a positive cash flow.

The company must be hoping that the ITT bidding will persuade shareholders to top up their present investment by subscribing to the rights; the market's initial reaction, with the shares up 12p at 140p, suggests the terms have been well received.

#### NEW COURT PROP. AT 128.3P

The next issue of units in the New Court Property Fund is being made on October 14 at 128.3p per unit. The estimated gross yield is 4.5 per cent.

The fund, sponsored by N. M. Rothschild Asset Management, provides tax exempt pension funds and charities with the opportunity to invest directly in property without getting involved in the administration of properties, yet not losing the tax advantages. The fund now stands at £240m with units held by about 100 pension funds and charities.

Since the previous issue of units at the end of June, the fund has continued to expand its portfolio in the South East. Recent purchases include offices in Central London and Guildford, a shop property in Portsmouth, and a number of industrial units in the West Midlands.

The Crosby chairman, Mr. J. R. Keay, said in the rights issue document that 1977 had been a disastrous year for the group, and that the year ahead would be better.

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## BIDS AND DEALS

## Amey Roadstone moves into industrial sand

IN A move to enter the industrial sand market Amey Roadstone, the wholly-owned subsidiary of Consolidated Goldfields, is paying \$4.5m in cash and shares for the privately-owned Buckland Industries.

On top of this Amey Roadstone may have to pay up to a further \$1m depending upon Buckland's future profit performance.

However, the group said last night that the real cost of the deal is considerably less than the stated figures as it is also acquiring significant cash balances and reserves as part of the Buckland deal.

Although the group does have a fair amount of industrial sand interests this will be its first major introduction to this market. Annual production of industrial sand in the UK is thought to be around 5m to 6m tonnes and Buckland is estimated to have around 7 per cent of this market.

Pre-tax profit of the privately owned concern are currently estimated to be running at around £1m to £1.5m a year.

To meet the cost of the deal Consolidated Gold Fields is issuing just over 1m of its own shares. Judging by the recent performance of the group's shares this would indicate that the cash element of the deal is something above £2.5m.

Buckland operates five pits, two near Reigate, Surrey, and three near Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.

**FINANCE FOR INDUSTRY**

A new company, JCFC Corporation Finance, has been formed by Finance for Industry to handle the group's corporate advisory services. These were formerly dealt with by the corporate finance department of Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation and Scottish Industrial Finance.

The new company identifies FFI's merchant banking advisory operations as being separate from the Group's investment activities carried out through JCFC. Its 18 branch offices, serving small and medium-sized firms, Finance Corporation for Industry and Finance for Shipping.

**RENWICK GROUP**

The Renwick Group has completed the purchase of 3 per cent of the outstanding 9 per cent, which it does not already own, of the capital of Marine Projects (Plymouth) from Mr. David King, the managing director of Marine.

The original agreement (of February 1973) has been amended (ii) to defer the purchase of the

outstanding minority in equal instalments to September 1978, August 1979, and August 1980; and to allow the consideration to be satisfied in shares or cash as may be agreed between the parties.

Consideration for the 3 per cent (in respect of the September 1978 instalment) amounted to £283,628 which was being satisfied by the delivery of 633,301 ordinary shares per £1 of the enlarged ordinary capital — 598,301 of the shares have subsequently been placed for Mr. King with institutions.

**STEETLEY TO MERGE CANADIAN INTERESTS**

Steetley Company's wholly-owned Canadian subsidiary, Steetley of Canada (Holdings) is to be bid £8.5m for the 26 per cent minority of Steetley Industries it does not already own.

Steetley Industries, based in Canada, has two stone quarries and interests in distribution of electrical and engineering supplies.

The reason for the bid is that one of SI's supplies comes raw material to SIC (Holdings) on the same site. The management of the combined operation would merge the interests of outside shareholders in one if they did not have to continually be in mind.

The Canadian stock exchange quotation of Steetley Industries has been of no use to the group because it is too thinly traded and lowly valued to be used as a broker.

The offer worth £919 per share, subject to clearance from the Canadian Foreign Investment Review Agency, as well as the Bank of England and the Bank of Canada, is to be made on Friday.

**ASSOCIATES DEALS**

On Thursday, Hill Samuel sold 53,200 Courtaulds at 119p on behalf of discretionary investment clients.

Jacobson Townsley bought for Raybeck 2,300 Bourne and Hollingsworth at 228p, and on Friday bought 15,000 at the same price.

The purchase is being made through a mixture of cash and Yule Catto shares. The Hartford Marine partners are to receive £125,000 in cash and will be issued 410,000 Yule Catto shares.

Hartford Marine's partners have agreed to retain two thirds of the shares for at least twelve months.

The marina is near Huntingdon and consists of a 40 acre basin opening on to the Great Ouse.

Yule said yesterday that it believed that the site was capable

of "considerable expansion" and complemented its existing marina at Cobb's Quay, Poole, Dorset.

**ELLIS & EVERARD (CHEMICALS)**

Ellis and Everard (Chemicals) has agreed to buy Domestic Chemical Company of Exeter, from Thomas Borthwick and Sons. Domestic

with a turnover in excess of £1m per annum, distributes industrial and domestic chemicals in South Western England.

The product range of the two companies is similar but it is envisaged that there will be some mutual advantage in gaining access to some of the more specialised products handled by Domestic and Ellis and Everard (Chemicals).

The acquisition is intended to

bring the number of distribution points to 19.

**NEW DRILL PIPE STOCKHOLDER**

A/S Norcent is the majority shareholder of a new drill pipe holding company called Oilt Country Supplies. The company will differ from most others in this field in that it will hold stock on a pre-emptive basis.

The managing director, Mr. C. G. Patrick Kehely, owns 20 per cent of the equity, an American merchant bank 5 per cent, while Norcent has 75 per cent.

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## Another move in Compton battle

The struggle for control of the market, increasing its holdings from a near 9 per cent to almost 11 per cent. This however may be only a tactical move, the Carrington's offer valued the company as received another bid at around £10m.

Two offers for Compton are already on the table with Courtaulds currently bidding Carrington Viyella. Yesterday's move raises several possibilities including a further offer from Carrington or even a potential bid from Vantona, whose original interest sparked off the current takeover battle.

A more unlikely possibility is that a completely new contender has arrived on the scene but even this cannot be ruled out.

The Compton directors—who earlier this month agreed to accept Courtaulds' terms valuing the company at £11.9m—are now telling shareholders to hold fire until a further announcement is made. This is likely to come later this week.

The product range of the two companies is similar but it is envisaged that there will be some mutual advantage in gaining access to some of the more specialised products handled by Domestic and Ellis and Everard (Chemicals).

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**CROSSLEY BLDG.**

The Bowater Corporation offer for Crossley Building Products at 94.39 per cent of the ordinary shares for which the offer was made, and 90.67 per cent of the

pre-emptive rights, was accepted compulsorily. The balance will remain open.

**CROSSLUX BUYS**

Penox Holdings has entered into an agreement with Park Place Investments to acquire for £40,250 the capital of the Cyprus House, whose sole asset is the ownership of a short lease produced by a financial institution of approximately £21,000 annually.

The consideration will be the issue of 175,000 ordinary shares in Penox, which will increase the Park Place investment in the

comptone points in pany to 210,000 shares.

**BMCT raises holding in McNeill Group to 23%**

Mr. Graham Ferguson Lacey—whose jointly owned Birmingham and Midland Counties Trust with Mr. E. Aylett Moore, has an offer for Vantona, which the group was back to more than one margin in the delivered trade and in trademarks. The hypermarkets were running profitably and despite the preliminary costs of the opening of the Bristol Carrefour in May, they were expected to produce a profit for the year.

Lord Kissin now says that it should not be assumed that all the problems of the group have been

overcome as this might be done but BMCT may be prepared to underwrite a rights issue.

Last year McNeill incurred a £1.3m pre-tax loss. Mr. Lacey said that losses in the current year were running at a similar level. This situation could not be allowed to continue he added.

He placed the group's current situation on management problems exacerbated by the low level of construction work in Northern Ireland as a result of public spending cuts. The level of redundancies, said Mr. Lacey, would largely depend upon how much of this work would now become "unfrozen."

Immediately Mr. Lacey warned of redundancies among the group's 850 employees and said that it may be necessary to close McNeill's construction equipment distribution division.

Mr. Lacey said that it would take three months to carry out a review and reorganisation of the group's activities. This, he said, will include the sale or closure of loss-making subsidiaries in order to curtail the significant trading losses.

He is joined on the McNeill board by his partner Mr. Cecil McBride. The two men control BMCT, which yesterday increased its stake in McNeill from 19.33 per cent to 23 per cent — with the acquisition of a parcel of shares from McNeill's director Mr. John Guinness who intends to retire.

Mr. Lacey said that BMCT had no plans to increase its stake above the present level — at least until the reorganisation is complete. If this is satisfactorily concluded then BMCT will consider the injection of a further £1m in new equity capital.

**SHARE STAKES**

Royal Worcester-Rothschild Investment Trust has increased its stake from 19.33 per cent to 23 per cent.

Mr. Lacey said that the group will be in a strengthened position and able to obtain the advantages that in these competitive days are available only to the larger organisations.

Lord Kissin says that the Spar Group was negotiated a five year DM2m loan from Williams and Glyn's Bank.

The concession, introduced at the beginning of 1978, allows

one measure to be taken for loans for this purpose to be repaid with sterling at spot rather than investment currency rates.

The effect of the new F and C Eurotrust is that the part of its foreign investments totalling £4.08m will be held premium free in a loan account matched by an identical currency deposit.

The loan, which at June 30

was equivalent to £518,807,

brought the company's total foreign currency loans at that date up to £1.99m (£1.49m).

In 1977-78 the company had used a £1m multi-currency loan for a full year for the first time. This

year was reflected in sharply increased

## Enlarged Linfood yet to see merger benefits

ALL HAS not been plain sailing and the three main divisions increased their volume.

On the retail side the original Wheat Sheaf Distribution and Linfood group now has 274 outlets with the latest store opened in Worcester, Oxford, now trading profitably. With wholesaling the frozen food distribution

capabilities were further expanded while in the case of the Carrington's offer valued the company at around £10m.

Lord Kissin, the chairman of Linfood, says in his annual statement that the picture resulting from the merger has been initially less favourable than was expected because Wheat Sheaf's results were adversely affected by two important non-recurring items.

The opening costs of a new hypermarket and substantial losses in branches of its Spanish subsidiary.

Emergency steps have been taken to rectify the closing of slightly unprofitable branches in Spain and there are indications in internal accounts that Wheat Sheaf's profit will affect a recovery and is again trading profitably.

In the year to February 25, 1978 Wheat Sheaf's profit fell from £8.21m to £1.1m and in the merger documents Mr. E. Aylett Moore, said the group was moving back to more than one margin in the delivered trade.

The consideration will be the issue of 175,000 ordinary shares in Penox, which will increase the Park Place investment in the company to 210,000 shares.

At September 4, Guinness Peat Group, of which Lord Kissin is chairman, held 17.3 per cent of the year.

Lord Kissin now says that it should not be assumed that all the problems of the group have been

overcome as this might be done but BMCT may be prepared to underwrite a rights issue.

Last year McNeill incurred a £1.3m pre-tax loss. Mr. Lacey said that losses in the current year were running at a similar level. This situation could not be allowed to continue he added.

He placed the group's current situation on management problems exacerbated by the low level of construction work in Northern Ireland as a result of public spending cuts. The level of redundancies, said Mr. Lacey, would largely depend upon how much of this work would now become "unfrozen."

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year was reflected in sharply increased

## Macallan Glenlivet over £0.4m

A WARNING that some rise in new whisky prices appears inevitable comes from the directors of Macallan-Glenlivet, distillers

of the announcement of a marginal growth in the company's taxable earnings from £362,000 to £402,000 for the year to July 31, 1978.

Profit was in line with the forecast of a modest increase made at half-time when the surplus was better at £291,000 (£240,000).

With further rises in operating costs already indicated, higher prices would be needed to enable producers to establish a reasonable margin of profit.



## INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND COMPANY NEWS

# Further earnings boost for American Standard

BY TERRY BYLAND

THE PRESIDENT of American Standard, Mr. William A. Marquard, told a Press conference in London yesterday that he expects group earnings for 1978 to exceed \$7 a share. This compares with \$6.62 a share for 1977. He expects earnings to be above the current strength of the earlier prediction, the earnings would be "substantially higher" this year. Sales for the group, which operates in building products, transportation, construction and mining and security systems, are on target for the previous forecast that they would exceed \$2bn in 1978.

Losses on foreign exchange, which hit the group in the third quarter by \$4m to \$1m are expected to be "slight" in the fourth quarter of the current year.

At the beginning of June, share earnings on a 12 month basis had already reached \$6.82. Total revenue for the same

period stood at \$1,964m and earnings in 1977. Last year Standard acquired Clayton Dewandre of the U.K.

Looking ahead to next year, Mr. Marquard said that sales and earnings would be at good levels, if not showing the same percentage improvements of the 1977. He expects earnings to be above the current inflation in the U.S. after allowing for a conservative estimate of a "flat" performance by the national economy in 1979.

He expects to report a positive cash flow in that year, for which the group has planned for a 10 per cent increase in capital spending.

American Standard's earnings base remains firmly established on the U.S. whence some 85 per cent of its sales come last year. European operations, which include plants manufacturing truck brake systems in Germany, Austria, France and Italy, produced 30 per cent of group

sales in 1977. Last year Standard acquired Clayton Dewandre of the U.K.

The transportation and industrial products division, which produced some 34 per cent of world wide earnings in 1977, when its results were described as "excellent," should have even better figures this year.

On the European side, the heavy truck sector remains sluggish and the addition of Clayton Dewandre should expand group business.

Over the period from 1976 to date, expansion of the European heavy truck division, which manufactures WABCO braking systems, for trucks has had sales up from \$62,000 to \$20,000 (estimated) units. Over the same period, output of U.S. freight cars rose from 54,000 to 80,000.

Other subjects.

In its first phase "the world showcase" will have 10 nations participating with additional countries expected to join in a second phase.

The existing Walt Disney World has recorded a seven-year attendance of nearly 90m visitors, and the new theme parks are expected to attract a further 8m to 10m visitors in their first year of operation.

The new parks, including the additions, will represent a total of more than \$1bn. The investment of more than \$1bn. October 1, 1982. The projects

seas, space, life and health and Mr. Walker said.

AP-DJ

## Reed Paper back in the black

By Robert Gibbons

MONTRÉAL, Oct. 2. REED PAPER LTD., the troubled Canadian arm of Reed International of the U.K. was profitable for the first time in eight consecutive quarters during the third quarter this year. Mr. Donald MacIver, the president said, but the company does not expect to show a profit for the whole year.

It has sold its decorative products group to the parent and also its interests in two western pulp mills for a total of just over \$100m cash. Newsprint demand has been strong and fine papers have improved substantially. Lumber has performed well, packaging has improved and pulp has become stable with further improvement in 1979 likely.

However the Dryden operations in Ontario have "immense" problems to be overcome. Negative cash flows will continue for several more years. The pulp mill will need very large capital spending because it is so old.

Debt is stable and was improving through the third quarter. The policy was to reduce debt further by the proceeds of asset sales. The pigments business is still for sale. Talks with a number of Reed's international partners are still at a "preliminary stage". Accumulated tax loss carry-forwards now total more than \$70m (US\$58.8m).

Abitibi extends offer

MR. JACK KINCANNON, senior vice-president of Sears Roebuck and Co., told a meeting of Swiss bankers and businessmen today that the company's earnings per share in the second half of this year would be better than in the first.

The meeting was arranged to mark the introduction of Sears Roebuck shares on Swiss Stock Exchanges. Herr Hanns Kessler, a director of the Swiss National Bank, told the meeting AP-DJ.

Tenneco loses plea

THE American Supreme Court has denied a request by Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company and its parent Tenneco that it should become involved in a contract dispute between the shipbuilder and the American Navy. AP-DJ reports from Washington.

The court let stand a Federal Appeals Court ruling reinstating a suit by the Navy to force Newport News to complete work on a nuclear frigate.

## Wells Fargo sees third quarter gain of 11%

NEW YORK, Oct. 2.

WELLS FARGO of San Francisco, expects third quarter earnings to be up more than 11 per cent from the same period of 1977.

In a news release, Mr. Richard P. Cooley, president of the bank holding company, said he did not expect the third quarter gain "to match the 36 per cent growth rate of the first half of 1977 over the first half of 1977. However, we do anticipate healthy earnings growth for the final quarters of this year as well as for 1978."

AP-DJ

## Sandoz U.S. seeks \$40m

NEW YORK, Oct. 2.

SANDOZ U.S. plans to issue up to \$40m of commercial paper in the U.S. through the First Boston Corporation.

Sandoz said it expects the first offering to be made sometime this month. The paper, which will have the typical one-to-270 day maturities, will not be guaranteed by its Swiss parent company, Sandoz Limited.

The paper will instead be backed by a \$40m irrevocable bank revolving credit agreement which provides that the bank

Reuter

## Sears Roebuck profits to rise

ZURICH, Oct. 2.

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SEC warning to brokers

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.

MR. EDWARD I. O'BRIEN, president of the Securities Industry Association, swiftly denied that any fraud occurred by any broker-dealer in any of these practices.

The warning included the practice of issuing cheques to customers that had been drawn on distant banks to prolong the amount of commission for brokerage services and the amount of custodial fee that would be charged.

AP-DJ

## Merrill Lynch in merger talks

By Stewart Fleming

NEW YORK, Oct. 2.

MERRILL LYNCH, the largest U.S. brokerage company, has announced that it is discussing a merger with Amic Corporation, a North Carolina-based insurance concern.

Amic is a holding company that owns American Mortgage Insurance, whose main business is to provide insurance to lenders against loss on residential first mortgage loans.

Its subsidiaries are licensed to offer insurance services in 43 states including the District of Columbia. In 1977 Amic's net premiums written amounted to about \$18m and net income was \$6.7m.

Merrill Lynch, which in terms of its size and capital base dominates Wall Street's stock-trading community, has been diversifying aggressively in recent years.

Last month, it revealed that its next major diversification would be into the residential property sector. It said that it was negotiating with "several" residential real estate companies whose acquisition would mark the company's "initial entry into the rapidly growing residential brokerage industry."

The company said that such a move would take it another step closer to its goal of providing a full financial service. It has already expanded its operations into international banking, life insurance and providing services which are similar to commercial banking in some cases.

Its first move into the real estate business was in 1968 when it acquired a insurance banking and property management operation. Last year it acquired a business which helps executives relocate, helping in buying and selling properties and making arrangements.

NEW YORK, Oct. 2.

DEAN WITTER REYNOLDS Organisation, the securities broker, said its Board has raised the quarterly dividend from 15 cents to 20 cents per share, payable November 1.

In the year to August 31, net earnings increased from \$12.6m to \$18.6m. Revenues of \$412.6m compared with \$279.1m last time.

Net income per share was \$2.65 in 1978 against \$2.62 in 1977.

Fourth quarter net of \$8.1m on revenues of \$143.9m compared with net earnings of \$2.6m on revenues of \$82.7m. Net income per share for the quarter was \$1.02 against 56 cents.

Agencies

NEW YORK, Oct. 2.

Gaming stocks

The New York Stock Exchange is removing certain gaming stocks from its list of those required to have special initial margin and capital requirements, Reuter reports from New York.

The securities being taken off the list are Bally Manufacturing Corporation's common stock and 6 per cent convertible subordinated debentures due 1996, and common stock of Harrabs, Playboy Enterprises and Del E. Webb Corporation.

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## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

## Fresh Wall St. technical rise in thin trade

## INVESTMENT DOLLAR

RENTALS

\$2.80 to £1.81% (4%)

Effective 1.9715 37% (4%)

ANOTHER MODEST technical

improvement occurred on Wall

Street yesterday in thin trading,

which was limited by many

market participants observing

the Jewish New Year holiday.

The Dow Jones Industrial

Average gained 3.54 to

\$13.14, while the NYSE All

Commons closed lower, down

higher at \$57.08 and rises out-

numbered losses by 764 to 618.

Turnover was down to 23.61m

shares from last Friday's total

of 23.61m.

Analysts said, however, that

investors remain concerned over

the future of interest rates and

whether they will move higher.

They added that the Federal

Reserve may soon raise the

Discount Rate, at which it lends

funds to member banks, and

further boosts the Federal Funds

Rate, at which member banks

borrow reserves from each other,

to control money growth.

THE AMERICAN SE Market Value

Index moved up 0.63 to 169.34

in a small business. Volume 2.64m

per cent for the Fed Funds Rate.

The Commerce Department

signalled some slowing of the U.S.

construction spending fell 2.2m

to \$15.7 and Showboat 3.1 to

\$2.5bn or 12 per cent July rise.

Gaming shares dominated

trading again. The New York SE

on securities of Resorts Inter-

lifted its 75 per cent initial margin requirement on some Gaming issues but maintained it on others.

Active Ramada Inns, still on a 75 per cent margin, climbed 1% to

\$141. It has signed a contract to

buy the Ambassador Hotel in

Atlantic City for a casino. Holl

day Inns, which remained on 50 per cent margin, shed 4% to

\$27.1 to plan a build a 500-

room hotel in Atlantic City.

Cesars World, retrained, but

up 4% to \$25.6, and Teledyne

Manufacturing, rose 1% to \$54.

Barra's 3% to \$28, and Del E. Webb

to \$24.

Among Glamours and Blue

Chips, IBM put on 3% to \$250.

Du Pont 2% to \$130, Smithkline

Beecham 1% to \$71.

AMC jumped 7% to \$24 on news

that Merrill Lynch has started

merger talks with the company.

Continued optimism about the

West German economic outlook

coupled with the strength of the

Deutsche mark fuelled the

shares' rise.

The Amex reduced initial

margin requirements on a number

of Gaming issues back to 50 per

cent from 75 per cent. Golden

Nugget rose 11% to \$27, and Showboat 3.1 to

\$2.5bn or 12 per cent July rise.

Initial margin requirements

were maintained at 100 per cent

trading again. The New York SE

on securities of Resorts Inter-

national but the "A" stock of the VEBA group advanced 13 to \$158 in active trading and the "B" 17 to \$262.

Markets continued to

strengthen in fairly active trading,

the Toronto Composite Index

advancing 6.2 further to a high

for the year of 1,290.9. Golds

moved ahead 182 to 1,681.0. Oils

and Gas 10 to 1,124.2. Papers 2.31

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national but the "A" stock of the VEBA group advanced 13 to \$158 in active trading and the "B" 17 to \$262.

Public Authority Bonds were

prompted heavy buying of Bourse

stocks yesterday, taking the stock

market's rally a good stage

further. The Swiss Bank Corpora-

tion's index picked up 5.9 more to

2,902.

Leading Industrials were very

active with Ciba-Geigy adding 40

at \$29.85, Nestle 30 at \$29.76,

3,210, and Sandoz 175 at \$29.76.

Utilities 105.22 to 105.23, and

Swissair 105.20 to 105.21.

Banking 20.90 to 20.91, and

Swisscom 10.90 to 10.91.

Swissair and Financials were

strong, led by Bank shares of

U.S. Bank and Credit Suisse.

France's sharply rising

trend 1,016 and Pirelli SpA 33 to 1,081.

Australia

With the Sydney stock market

closed for the Labour Day hol-

iday, stocks in the Melbourne

exchange mainly drifted easier.

BHP shed 4 cents to \$36.65,

while Myer, which is expected to

report annual results this week,

lost a cent to \$15.59.

However, Metro, listed was

a bright feature, advancing 20

cents to \$16.50.

Last Friday's disclosure that oil

explorations in the Strzelecki

No. 3 exploration well in South

Australia's Cooper Basin are

smaller than first thought saw

two partners, Santos and Cruiser,

fall sharply, but they partially

recovered after news of a large

gas find at the well.

The Nikkei-Dow Jones

Index rose 1.5% to 1,076.76,

while the Tokyo SE Index

closed 0.6% to 1,043.76.

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The Nikkei-Dow Jones



## FARMING AND RAW MATERIALS

## Rebuff for Brussels on fish policy

By Our Commodity Staff

A RELATED attempt by the EEC Commission to get the British to think again on its unilateral fish conservation policy has received short shrift from the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Commission wrote to the UK minister at the weekend requesting detailed information on the measures and the scientific evidence on which they are based. It urged that they should not be enforced until it had time to consider the position.

Ministry officials said yesterday that while the information would be supplied there was no intention of delaying operation of the measures, many of which were already in force.

The Commission's move is seen as a response to pressure from the Danes and Irish, who are angry, respectively, at the extension of the ban on pout, porpoise (within which industrial or fishmeal fishing is banned) and an early end to the herring season in the British sector of the Irish Sea.

The Ministry said yesterday that the pout ban extension started at midnight on Saturday. No Danish or Irish fishing had been reported either in the pout ban or Britain's Irish Sea area on Sunday.

## World grain crop forecast raised again

ROME, Oct. 2  
THE UN Food and Agriculture Organisation has again raised its forecast for world wheat and coarse grain production this year, to 1,140m tonnes, reported Reuters.

The forecast is 10m tonnes higher than FAO predictions a month ago, and would put 1978 production at 48m tonnes or 4.4 per cent above last year's level.

Wheat production is forecast at 418m tonnes, almost 8 per cent up on 1977 and 1 per cent higher than the long-term trend, the organisation said in a report based on information available up to September 26.

The increase in forecast wheat and coarse grain production reflects good weather, which has helped spring cereals in the U.S., Western Europe and the USSR, where record or near-record crops are now expected.

There are also reductions in the estimates for some countries, notably wheat production in Canada, the U.S. and Argentina, which only partly offset the upward adjustment.

Coarse grains output is forecast at 255m tonnes, 18m tonnes more than in 1977.

COMMODITY MARKET REPORTS AND PRICES  
BASE METALS

**COPPER**—Came around, mainly under the influence of copper, which was subject to continuous bear buying. But there has been trade selling into the speculative buying. Foreign metal traded quickly in the morning between EEC and East Europe, but the market was quiet in the afternoon, with the date of 10pm before 10pm, the turn at 1pm after a day of modest business.

American Metal Trading reported that wirebars were being traded at 10.10-11.40, mainly 10.10-11.20, with a small number of 10.10-11.00. Wirebars three months 10.10-11.20.

TIN—Higher as the market recovered from an initial fall after a period of

## Aluminium futures debut on Metal Exchange

By JOHN EDWARDS, COMMODITIES EDITOR

ALUMINIUM FUTURES trading had an encouraging start on the London Metal Exchange yesterday.

Members came from far and wide to be present at what was considered to be an important occasion—the first new contract to be traded on the Metal Exchange since silver was launched in 1968 and the first time ever aluminium has been traded there, after years of talk.

There was a ripple of applause when the first aluminium trading "ring" ended with a turnover of 2,000 tonnes, especially as it followed some lively pre-market trading.

The market quietened down with 1,300 lots traded in the second morning "ring" and only 325 in the afternoon sessions.

Prices moved somewhat erratically at first falling to 15,700 a tonne at the stage in pre-market dealing, but later settling down between 15,840 and 15,870 before closing at 15,855.75 a tonne. Nevertheless, London

This compares with the present UK aluminium producer price of £710 a tonne for 99.5 grade ingots, delivered. The LME price is for 99.5 per cent grade, ex-warehouse with seller's option.

There were more spectacular price movements on the lead and tin markets. Cash lead jumped by £11 to close at £379.5 a tonne.

The gap between the cash and three-months quotation has now been almost eliminated, reflecting a general and immediate availability of supplies, although LME warehouse stocks of lead were only 25 tonnes down at a total of 42,275 tonnes.

Buying interest for cash lead, however, soon revealed a reluctance to sell.

The market was also given a firm underpin by a series of domestic price increases. Copper Range announced a 2 cent rise in 59 cents a lb, while Inspiration put up its price by 1 cent to 68 cents.

The stock levels only 5 tonnes lower at 1,488 tonnes and the Penang market fell over the weekend to \$M11,850 to \$M11,880 a tonne. Nevertheless, London

values rallied strongly, especially the cash price which gained £140 to £710 a tonne. The three-months quotation gained £90 to £730.

After opening slightly lower, buying interest believed to be covering of past business quickly drove prices up and the upward trend was accelerated when cash points were reached.

A expected copper stocks in LME warehouse followed the Coffee Council agreed that new International Coffee Organisation executive board meeting should be called if prices moved 15 per cent above or below the average for the 9 days either side of the meeting and stayed outside that range for a further 20 days.

In effect, this means that no further action is likely to be taken until mid-December, and there is no guarantee that anything positive would emerge from any meeting called then.

## Coffee pact face-saver disappoints

By Richard Mooney

LONDON COFFEE traders were unimpressed yesterday by the complicated compromise formula reached in London late on Friday night at the end of the International Coffee Organisation's three-week negotiating session. They saw the agreement as little more than a face-saving formula.

Having reached a total standard on the price levels at which export quota trigger and cut-off prices should be fixed, the Coffee Council agreed that the new International Coffee Organisation executive board

meeting should be called if prices moved 15 per cent above or below the average for the 9 days either side of the meeting and stayed outside that range for a further 20 days.

In effect, this means that no further action is likely to be taken until mid-December, and there is no guarantee that anything positive would emerge from any meeting called then.

## Acceptable

But this outcome is thought to be quite acceptable both to the producers and the consumers. Neither side is particularly anxious to commit itself to any long-term policy at the moment as there is still considerable uncertainty on the size of many important coffee crops, particularly Brazil's.

By December much of this uncertainty may have been removed and conditions may be more conducive to constructive negotiation.

Mr Arturo Gomez Jaramillo, general manager of the Colombian National Coffee Growers' Federation, said the failure of the London talks meant that the task of managing the world coffee market "now lies in the hands of producers alone."

But this statement struck little fear into the hearts of the London coffee traders who still remember the much-publicised but totally ineffective producer attempts at organised export restraint which have been mounted in the past few years.

Commenting on the Bill yesterday, a 17 cents minimum support price for sugar to be considered by the Senate today, President Carter claimed that the bill grower could probably produce sugar for less than 15 cents, only two weeks ago the White House claimed in a letter to Congress that anything over

14.5 cents was "unnecessarily inflationary."

The President is not prepared to accept the "escalator" clause in the ways and means committee Bill, but will give a commitment to give deficiency payments if U.S. production costs rise above the 15 cents support level.

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## Low key start for sugar market

BY OUR COMMODITIES STAFF

It was noted that on Friday minimum price in the U.S. could help speed up US ratification of the International Sugar Council's new sugar market fund for a further three months until January 1 next year.

But President Carter's action to arrest 15 cents

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But President Carter's action to arrest 15 cents

## Carter compromise

BY OUR COMMODITIES STAFF

PRESIDENT CARTER has offered a compromise in an effort to break the deadlock that has prevented U.S. domestic sugar legislation being approved by Congress and the International Sugar Agreement.

The President confirmed that he would accept the House Ways and Means Sugar Bill which proposes a minimum price of 15 cents a lb for U.S. growers.

This compares with Administration's original proposal of a 13.5 cents minimum price, which was later stepped up to 14.5 cents, only two weeks ago the White House claimed in a letter to Congress that anything over

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## FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY

Tuesday October 3 1978

Joly in 1978

## World Nuclear Industries

This Survey, which coincides with the fifth Nuclex nuclear industries exhibition and congress in Basle, Switzerland, finds the international nuclear manufacturing industry and its customers cautiously emerging from several years of intense political hostility and public scrutiny.

## Facing up to the strain

By David Fishlock  
Science Editor

THE THREE years since the last Nuclex nuclear industries exhibition and congress in Basle have not been happy ones for nuclear power and its advocates. They have been years in which events and accidents so trivial that in other industries would barely rate a mention in local papers have been blazoned across the front pages of the national Press. They pot pourri which passes for the merit of the proposed new project—its energy policy, its reprocessing, its employment, security, etc.—have often found nuclear power a convenient butt with which to distract the electors. And the last year has been one in which the world's most conspicuous advocate of nuclear power has been obliged to stay silent while those opposed to nuclear energy should have appeared as a witness, was a to persuade Britain to abandon to nuclear energy—

the industry monopolised the look so enviously towards nations which have recognised that, in the national interest, nuclear energy's problems demand wholehearted political support. France, W. Germany, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Japan, among the industrialised nations, have all decided to forge ahead. Their decisions be taken considerable political courage because a groundswell of opposition initiated in the U.S. in the 1960s has been

coordinated into an international political activity, fast-moving, ruthless, terrifying to the more timorous political leaders.

The Windscale Inquiry, called by Britain's political leaders

compromised, seeking to satisfy too many constituents; that it rough in 1978, demonstrated

endeavours to substitute political perceptions of reality for

opposition was founded on erroneous perceptions of reality for reality itself; that it avoids expertise because of the currently opponents strove to justify on a fashionable view that expertise is astonishingly wide variety of grounds—international security by its very nature is contaminated and corrupt..."

The Washington situation has a curious parallel in Whitehall, where Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn, as Secretary for Energy, (compared with 57 representing presides over the complacent the company and the government of the national Press. They pot pourri which passes for the merit of the proposed new project—its energy policy, its reprocessing, its employment, security, etc.—have often found nuclear power a convenient butt with which to distract the electors. And the last year has been one in which the world's most conspicuous advocate of nuclear power has been obliged to stay silent while those opposed to nuclear energy should have appeared as a witness, was a to persuade Britain to abandon to nuclear energy—

## GROWING WORLD DEPENDENCE ON NUCLEAR ELECTRICITY

	1976	(% nuclear electricity)	1980
Belgium	21	22.4	—
Sweden	18	21.7	24.5
Switzerland	18	16.8	—
France	—	13.4	26
Britain	13	13.14*	—
W. Germany	—	11.0	—
United States	—	12.0	—
Bulgaria	—	—	20

\* DOE estimate

Source: Atomic Industrial Forum

W. European nations willing to which nations can place dif- two European enrichment clubs, have their spent fuel repro- ferent long-term energy bets Urenco and Eurodif, have under- cessed by other nations, in spite without jeopardising each taken not to part with their of U.S. threats that it might other's national security in technology to other nations, not be prepared to grant MB 10 terests. We ask those who bet even if those other nations licences for the retransfer of fuel it originally enriched, on breeders to include security are recruited in joint ventures.

In July President Carter's emissary on proliferation policy arrived in London with a new brief. He came in frankly con-

ciliatory mood, to explore with the top nuclear industry and government officials the possibili-

ties for an "accommodation" between U.S. policy and the energy security of its allies.

Could something be salvaged of a policy in which the President and his emissary, Dr. Joseph Nye of the State Department, still believe fervently?

He spelled out four points his guards in the future. Even the apparent restrictiveness of the first of Dr. Nye's four points

fades rapidly when one considers how few nations could

accommodate on their electricity system a plant of the size and complexity currently contemplat-

ed for commercial FBRs.

It has been authoritatively intimated, however, that U.S. Government's focus of concern has shifted from the FBR—on the development of

which it has been able to exert so little influence—to the re-

cycling of plutonium through light water reactors. This is

technology to which it is still firmly opposed. If this is so, the

● To avoid the temptation to try to reduce unit capital costs by "premature" ex-

ports, and to restrict the FBR's use to situations where it showed "compelling advantages."

● To so design its fuel cycle as to make "misuse" of plutonium difficult and time-

consuming, even though this might increase its electricity costs.

● To minimise movements of plutonium fuel.

● To organise multi-national institutions to safeguard FBRs against proliferation.

Nowadays is recognised as having, at best, marginal

economic advantage rests squarely with the U.S. itself. It

must show convincingly that what today are little more than assertions that there will be

ample low-priced uranium fuel to support a very large world

expansion of nuclear power can in fact be substantiated convincingly to those countries—such as West Germany—most inter-

ested in reprocessing plutonium.

"The Windscale Inquiry, 1978, HMSO. £3.75.

## Need

Dr. Nye stressed that the U.S. government is not opposed to nuclear power. He said he believes that the U.S. could have 320,000 MW of nuclear power

operating by the end of the century (compared with 51,361 MW

in operation today, and another

97,310 MW under construction).

His government accepted that,

by the year 2000, nuclear energy

could account for as much as

15 per cent of total U.S. energy

consumption. In Europe and

Japan it could be as high as 25

per cent.

Dr. Nye said his government

now recognises that some coun-

tries saw a more pressing need

to perfect the commercial fast

breeder reactor than did the U.S. at present. But he urged

reprocessing technology pooled

by the nuclear club, just as the 1978, HMSO. £3.75.

BNFL has produced nearly three million uranium metal fuel elements and one million uranium oxide fuel pins for Britain's nuclear power programme. This is equivalent to a saving of five hundred million tons of coal or two thousand two hundred million barrels of oil from U.K. fossil fuel reserves.

BNFL

at the heart of nuclear power

British Nuclear Fuels Limited, Risley, Warrington, WA3 6AS England



NUCLEX '78  
M/S Stand 331



## WORLD NUCLEAR INDUSTRIES III

## Reprocessing projects

ALMOST ANY country in Europe—and for that matter, the plan, concerned with the construction of a new 1,200 tonnes per year thermal oxide reprocessing plant (THORP) to which would separate plutonium from radioactive fission products in spent nuclear fuel. The basic technology was published at the time of the first Geneva conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy in 1955. From the earliest days of civil nuclear development in Europe reprocessing was seen as an essential requirement, and most countries have included research and development in this area in their national nuclear programmes.

In addition, national and commercial interests from 13 countries have participated in one of the first major international collaborative projects in Europe: the Eurochemic reprocessing plant at Mol in Belgium, operated from 1966 to 1974, with a nominal capacity of 60 tonnes per year. The Italians have commissioned a pilot plant, Eurex 1, with a capacity of 10 tonnes per year, in 1969; and the West Germans have been operating the WAK pilot plant with a capacity of 40 tonnes per year since 1970.

The problem today, therefore, is not one of basic reprocessing technology. It is the need to take advantage of economies of scale; for large commercial installations with capacities of around 1,000 tonnes per year, which can be operated at high efficiency for 10-15 years while the key sections of the plant remain inaccessible for maintenance owing to high levels of radioactivity.

The situation has been complicated by the ever more stringent safety standards imposed on all civil nuclear installations, by changing ideas about financing and commercial contracting for special services in the nuclear field, and by the greatly intensified environmental and political controversy surrounding the whole subject of reprocessing.

## Military

Britain and France clearly have a head start in reprocessing on a commercial scale. Not only did they acquire experience from military reprocessing activities at Windscale in the UK and Marcoule in France, but they also had to meet an early, large-volume requirement for the reprocessing of natural uranium (metal) spent fuel from the first-generation Magnox reactors. Spent fuel from these reactors has to be reprocessed fairly quickly after discharge from the reactors. Plants at Windscale (with a capacity of 1,500 tonnes per year) and La Hague (with a capacity of 800 tonnes per year) have been operated since 1964 and 1966, respectively, to meet civil requirements in the two countries. In the 1970s, state-owned but commercially structured companies—British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) and Cogema in France—have also been established to operate and sell special nuclear fuel cycle services, including reprocessing.

Windscale—BNFL is currently engaged on a massive refurbishing and expansion programme, which could eventually cost more than £1bn at its Windscale factory. These ambitious plans, conceived in the mid-1970s when it became clear that there was going to be a worldwide shortage of commercial reprocessing capacity rather than the surplus predicted at the beginning of the decade, provide a good illustration of the difficulties facing the commercial

part of there is a programme of construction of the very high integrity stainless steel storage around 1984.

BNFL has probably put back the starting date for the plant by at least two years, to 1987. The more urgent part of the BNFL expansion plan is, however, the refurbishment of reprocessing activities at Windscale is contained in 14 tanks. Two more are on standby, two are being installed, and a further six are planned.

Detailed design work is now more or less complete on a pilot plant for the solidification of high-level wastes. Construction, at Windscale, should start next year with operation scheduled for 1981. As with reprocessing itself the basic technology for vitrification is well established, both from work in the UK and, through a very free exchange of information, from around the world. The main problem now is the design and testing of reliable and flexible systems for remote preparation of liquids of different chemical composition and radioactive content for feeding, with glass-making components, into a vitrification furnace. The Windscale pilot plant is designed to provide the maximum amount of experience in this field. It will be able to handle anything from fast reactor waste material which has had as little as six months' cooling to Magnox reactor wastes which have had 10-20 years' cooling.

Initial site clearance work for THORP should start early next year. The first construction work will be the building of five large storage ponds to provide a capacity for around 3,000 tonnes of oxide spent fuel, with one pond on standby. These ponds should be available for the receipt of spent fuel by

1984. The BNFL team designing THORP includes a number of chemical engineers who have been involved in the building of four reprocessing plants—the early military plant and the Magnox plant at Windscale, and two plants for fast reactor fuel at Dounreay. Important considerations in an oxide plant—aplicable also to the fast reactor reprocessing plants—include: 1, the need to filter out fine solid matter after the initial dissolving of the spent fuel in nitric acid; 2, the need to minimize the contact time between the highly active solution and the organic solvent, which can suffer some degradation due to radiation; and 3, the need to make provision for the higher concentration of plutonium in the process streams.

A French design of rotary filter will be used to achieve the first of these objectives. Pulsed plants around the world, will be used instead of mixer settlers in the initial separation stages of the plant to minimize contact time. Solid neutron absorbers in the pulsed columns are among the measures that will be used to prevent criticality.

## Requirement

La Hague—Initially the nuclear programme in France paralleled very closely that in the UK. But the turn of events in recent years means that Cogema expects to be leading the world in the commercial reprocessing of oxide fuel during the early and mid-1980s. France has a smaller requirement for the reprocessing of Magnox fuel but a substantially larger requirement for the reprocessing of oxide fuel in the next decade or so. The French have been able to follow through at La Hague a scheme to introduce oxide fuel into the existing natural uranium plant by the addition of an oxide head-end. In addition the refurbished military plant at Marcoule can eventually take over virtually all of the requirement for natural uranium reprocessing so that the La Hague plant, with its oxide head-end, can make a phased transition to oxide reprocessing. This will be followed by the building of an entirely new plant at La Hague; more precisely, two identical plants providing a degree of back-up for each other. The total capacity of this UP3 plant will be 1,800 tonnes per year. Originally UP3 was scheduled to follow closely behind THORP. It will probably precede THORP by a year or two.

The present situation is that the oxide head-end plant, with a nominal capacity of 400 tonnes per year, has successfully completed two test runs with fuel from a boiling water reactor and from a pressurized water reactor, as required by the licensing authorities. Cogema now hopes to start commercial operations with the plant before the end of this year. Alternate campaigns of oxide fuel and Magnox fuel are anticipated.

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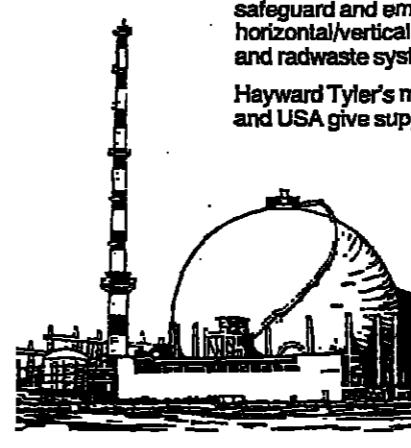
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Simon Rippon  
European Editor, Nuclear News

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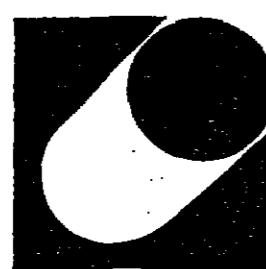
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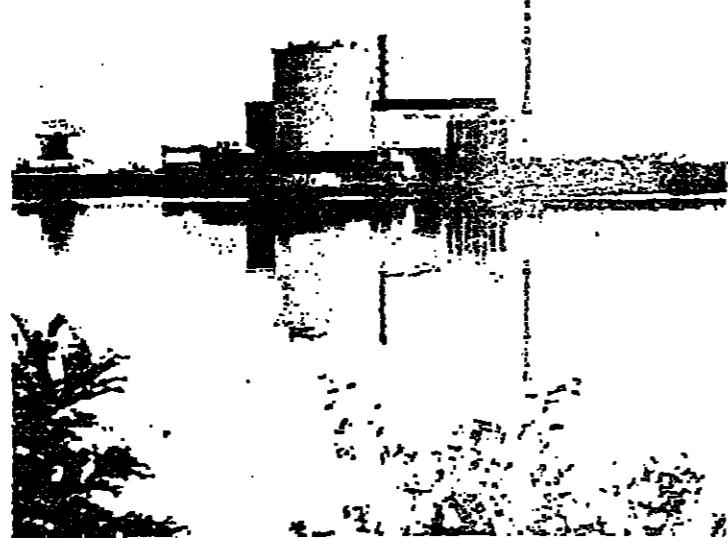
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## WORLD NUCLEAR INDUSTRIES IV

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AMN is the leading company in the plant engineering sector of the IRI-Finmeccanica Group and operates in the domestic and international markets for the design and supply of complete systems and/or subsystems for both conventional and nuclear power plants. AMN is also now obtaining very satisfying results in the nuclear engineering field due to the considerable experience acquired through the construction of conventional power plants both in Italy and abroad totalling 27,000 MWe of installed capacity. AMN has been working in this field, since 1963 i.e. since its considerable contribution to the construction of the Garigliano BWR power plant. AMN subsequently developed its organization and capabilities and was the prime contractor for the Cuccio nuclear plant, the largest power plant built in Italy to date. Following the completion of Caorso, AMN is now engaged in the construction of the two Montalto di Castro units, which utilize the latest BWR reactor design and which will generate up to 1000 MWe each. AMN is developing its nuclear activities both on its own account and jointly with other organisations and industries, both in Italy and abroad. Research efforts have enabled AMN to develop a 600 MWe reactor design, which is particularly suitable for countries which, on account of their modest power requirements, are confined to medium and small size units. Other Finmeccanica companies under the leadership of Ansaldo spa support and supplement AMN's capabilities.

ONLY TWO of the 29 nuclear reactor orders expected to be confirmed this year in seven countries outside the U.S. will go to U.S. nuclear manufacturers. These are two more plants for S. Korea, from Westinghouse Electric. The other 27 will go to European and Canadian companies, according to the Fifth Annual International Survey by the U.S. Atomic Industrial Forum (AIF) this summer.

AIF figures show that 14 of these 29 reactors will be exports. The countries where the orders are expected this year are: France 4 (Cruas 1 and 2 and Paluel 3, already ordered, and St. Maurice; all with Framatome); West Germany 3 (Neupotz, from Babcock-Brown Boveri Reaktorbau and Vahnum); and A and B from Kraftwerk Union. Sweden have exported complete units to receive orders for at least six to eight of the 20 nuclear steam supply systems, although the companies hold little hope of signing contracts before the year is out; Iran 8 (Framatome, a nuclear power plant Iran expects to construct during the 1980s).

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This table does not present a complete picture, however, because Europe also has a thriving business in components and services, from pressure vessels to safety evaluations, for nuclear stations outside Europe. Over 1,600 manufacturing com-

## EUROPE'S NUCLEAR ORDER BOOK

	For export	For export
	For W. Europe	from Europe
Reactors	67 NSSS*	14 NSSS
Enrichment	10,000 tonnes	2,000 tonnes
Reprocessing	10,000+ tonnes†	4,400 tonnes

\* Includes orders obtained by Westinghouse Nuclear Europe, wholly owned subsidiary of Westinghouse Electric, based in Brussels. † Includes estimates for national programmes in UK and France.

them to concentrate on nuclear power. Their strong nuclear programmes have meant offers to the more developed countries not only of nuclear power plants, but also of reprocessing facilities and enrichment services backed by favourable terms of financing.

Financial competition between supplier countries is quite significant, according to Mr. Moore. All recent contracts for the construction of nuclear plant in less developed countries had involved official export credit assistance from the supplier country. The financing competition has become even more important as, given the large capital requirements and long repayment periods, small differences in the level of type of financing can have a large impact on total costs.

Mr. John Elliott, senior principal of the UK Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD), discussed this competition in terms of financing at a conference on nuclear exports and the City, held by the British Nuclear Forum in London last spring.

He described how Americans were upset "at losing the financing for the turbines for the latest Korean nuclear projects, when ECGD supported an extraordinary length of credit and an unusually low rate of interest" in order to compete with the U.S. bid.

But Eximbank has participated in a high proportion of U.S. nuclear power plant exports—45 of the 57 nuclear projects since 1955. Up to March 30, 1978, Eximbank had supported some \$4.9bn of U.S. technologies, usually to those of the Canadians and the British, by authorising nearly \$2.5bn in direct credits and \$1.4bn in guarantees. Eximbank then had more export orders, with all the contracts lost going to overseas manufacturers of American technologies, the W. Germans and the French.

The single largest Eximbank borrower for nuclear power is Spain, with a total exposure of some \$965m. Other countries in which it has financed nuclear plant are (in decreasing amounts of exposure): Japan (\$797m); Japan (\$600m but none since 1972); Philippines (\$643m); Korea (\$562); Yugoslavia (\$235m); Mexico (\$188m); Brazil (\$144m); Italy (\$96m but none since 1973); West Germany (\$83m but none since 1972); and France (\$16m but none since 1959).

Carl Walske, president of the AIF, believes that the loss to the U.S. economy of the declining U.S. share of the international nuclear market is traceable in good part to recent U.S. Government policies "which have tended to dis-

advantage the U.S. energy crisis it was logical for

Pearl Marshall  
Editor, European Energy Report

## WORLD NUCLEAR PLANT MARKET U.S. SHARE AND EXIMBANK ROLE

	1955-70	1971-73	1974-75	1976-77
Global nuclear export orders	32	25	19	8
U.S. supplied	24	20	9	4
Exim financed	15	18	8	4
Ratios: (%)				
U.S./World	75%	80%	47%	50%
Exim/U.S.	63%	90%	89%	100%
Foreign orders: (Country of supplier on left)				
Can-India (2)				
Paris				
Ger-Austria				
Swit.				
Ger-Argentina				
Can-India				
Neth				
Korea				
UK-Japan				
Swe-Finland				
Luxem.				
Italy				
Fr-Italy				
Fr-Spain				
Swit-3				
Belgium-2				
India-2				
Italy				
Sweden				
Non-Exim:				
Swit-2				
Swit				

Source: Eximbank

## U.S. CONTINUED FROM PAGE II

it away. Little as I like nuclear and I'd rather live in a solar world—it's the best option we have."

## Needs

The view of the nuclear industry is that, eventually, it will triumph. It believes that the world needs American pressurised and boiling water reactors; that it needs the fast breeder reactor; and that it needs reprocessing. It believes that future U.S. Administrations will be driven to concurrence.

There is even some sign that mounting problems with coal will cause the log-jam in any industry to begin to free in the next two years. Commonwealth Edison, the Chicago-based utility, is evaluating bids on two nuclear plants. Public Service of Indiana will make a decision next year on bids which it already has in hand. The Tennessee Valley Authority is receiving bids on a nuclear power plant and will decide next year. American Electric Power, the largest privately-owned utility system in America, is evaluating its system with a mind to turning to nuclear power.

However, nuclear power has endured such a long period of travail that there are now serious institutional barriers to its use in a number of states,

It is in the short term that such as California, where the nuclear industry see stagnation. The question is whether there will remain enough business in the way of backlog to enable the four nuclear manufacturers—Westinghouse, U.S. General Electric, Combustion Engineering and U.S. Babcock and Wilcox—to stay in the nuclear business and to retain their nuclear personnel.

The politics of the United States are as diverse as its economy is complex and its geography disparate, and although nuclear power has taken a political drubbing on a scale never endured before by any industry, it is gradually winning a few friends. Key members of the Congress are beginning to show understanding and even support for nuclear power. As the dollar weakens, solar power appears to be more elusive and recedes further away, and coal causes increasing environmental concern, some re-evaluations of nuclear energy by politicians as well as utilities seems to be inevitable.

At heart, the U.S. nuclear industry knows that its future will be determined not by its safety record, nor by its ability to extract kilowatts per foot, but by what happens at the polls in 1980. A swing to the right will be a swing in favour of nuclear energy. A swing to the other way is expected to mean more anguish.

Llewelyn King  
The Energy Daily, Washington

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1200 MWe Super Phenix Nuclear Power Station at Creys-Malville, France

Turn-key supplier: NOVATOME - NIRAI

2 Heavy Water Reactors line  
1200 MWe Super Phenix fast breeder reactor (Creys-Malville Nuclear Power Station). NIRAI is the turn-key supplier of the Boiler, jointly with Novatome.

NIRAI is the Prime Contractor of the Italian manufacturing Companies for the relative supplies.

118 MWe PEC fast reactor for fuel element testing at Brasimone, Italy, on behalf of CNEN and sodium experimental facilities for the related test program.

Super Phenix-2 Reactor: participation in the studies of design and commercialization of this reactors type line.

Heavy Water Reactors line  
Nuclear power plants equipped with CANDU reactors under AECL licence (Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd.).

600 MWe nuclear system equipped with CANDU-PHW type reactors (the technical part of the relative tender has already been submitted to ENEL).

40 MWe CIRENE Nuclear Power Station at Latina, Italy, on behalf of CNEN and ENEL.

CANDU-PHW Twin Unit Station (2 x 600 MWe) NIRAI STANDARDIZATION









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Tuesday October 3 1978



GROWTH IN DEMAND FORECAST AT ONLY 1.9% NEXT YEAR

## World steel outlook gloomy

BY ROY HODSON

The outlook for the Western world's steel industry remains gloomy after four years of recession. Mr. L. J. Holisch, secretary-general of director of the International Iron and Steel Institute, forecast a growth in demand of only 1.9 per cent next year when he spoke at the opening of the institute's annual conference.

The small growth in demand for steel would come, mainly, from outside the big steel-making and consuming areas of Europe, North America and Japan. In those three areas the institute's forecasters expect levels of steel demand to remain virtually unchanged.

The general sustained upturn for steel demand for which the world steel industry had waited for four years was still not within sight, he said.

In the U.S., which had ex-

perienced strengthened steel demand, with the industry working at 85 per cent of its capacity, it was possible that 1978 would bring a halt to the upward trend.

"There are as yet no reliable indications that the principal cause of slow economic growth or stagnation in the industrialised countries will be removed.

"As long as such disturbances as exchange rate disorder and imbalance in international trade sufficient to cause inflation persist, the economic outlook is uncertain."

The 29 Western nations belonging to the institute are expected to make 458m tonnes of steel this year. This will be 4 per cent above the 365m tonnes of 1977, but still 36m tonnes below the peak of 1974.

The institute has prepared estimates of steel production

and usage in the Communist bloc's economic grouping, Comecon, and China, and concludes that total world steel consumption will be 715m tonnes in 1978 and 735m tonnes in 1979.

Mr. Eishiro Saito, president of Nippon Steel and chairman of the institute, said he believed steel was gradually returning to the industry. "It seems to me that the world industry has begun, albeit slowly, to make progress to the establishment of a new international order over the past year."

He claimed that the two main systems for disciplining markets, the European pricing system and the U.S. interprice mechanism, had gone a long way toward improving the world steel market.

Washington presses EEC to check steel invasion. Page 6

**Lucas talks continue in bid for Duccellier**

Financial Times Reporter

A HINT has emerged that Lucas, the UK car components company, still hopes for an amicable end to its bid to take control of Duccellier, the French electrical components group.

In a prepared statement, Lucas said, discussions were continuing with Ferodo, the French concern which has taken effective control of Duccellier. It added that Ferodo has "declared its wish to collaborate with Lucas," and that talks were also taking place with the French Government, which has had a strong hand in determining Duccellier's future.

### Pressing ahead

At the same time, however, Lucas stressed that it is pressing ahead with legal action to prevent Ferodo stepping into the dominant position in Duccellier.

The company's statement indicates that the French solution to Duccellier's future which has involved Ferodo taking the majority share in the company, against Lucas's 49 per cent stake, came as a surprise to the British group last week.

It hints strongly that a scheme of arrangement had been worked out which would have involved a Ferodo interest in Duccellier but Lucas control. The two companies were brought together last week by the French Government, "in the belief that they had come very close to an agreement concerning the control and management of Duccellier," the statement said.

Presumably, Lucas is hoping for a solution somewhat along these lines, although it would make no further comment, yesterday, beyond saying that it was "expecting something to happen pretty soon."

### Hold up

Lucas's \$26m (£13.3m) bid for the 51 per cent of Duccellier owned by Bendix Corporation of the U.S. has been held up since December, 1977, by the French authorities.

The scheme, put together by Ferodo, involves setting up a new organisation called Societe en Participation with DBA, the Bendix holding company in France, through which Ferodo would indirectly control 51 per cent of Duccellier.

Lucas, however, claims to have pre-emptive rights to acquire this 51 per cent holding, and is proceeding with legal action on this basis.

"Lucas has been advised that the Ferodo action contravenes not only the statutes of the partnership company Duccellier but also the company law of France," it says.

## ITT prepares bid for Egyptian phone project

BY JOHN LLOYD

SOME of the world's major telecommunications companies are preparing bids for work on modernising and extending Egypt's telephone network.

One of the most advanced of those is being prepared by ITT, the U.S. multinational communications company. It involves substantial participation by the company's UK subsidiary, STC, a leader in telephone manufacture.

The whole project, planned in two parts—the first, spread over five years, worth around \$1.5bn (£930m) and the second, over 20 years, worth around \$10bn (£5.5bn)—is the most ambitious ever proposed.

The Egyptians want their telecommunications network upgraded and extended from its present 400,000 lines to about 1m lines by 1984, and about 5m lines by the end of the century.

The project also entails a manufacturing plant making fully electronic, computer-controlled exchanges for the Egyptian and Continental Telephone.

There has been considerable uncertainty over the intentions of the Egyptian Government and the two businesses were largely complementary but there were some areas of difference.

"Nothing has been seen up yet," said an ITT executive. "I think it will go the usual old route—a specification will be drawn up, and it will go out to

of the companies in the U.S. consortium and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt met in June, and it was thought that this meeting had set the seal on the consortium's success.

Arto's managing director has since told communications companies' executives in Cairo that President Sadat had asked him to put the bid out to competitive tender once the specifications are agreed.

ITT, with the other companies, now preparing a bid, clearly believes the situation is open. It also thinks the U.S. consortium's proposals are over-complex.

ITT's package includes proposals on exchanges—which would initially be the company's electronic Metacarta exchange, manufactured in Belgium, then its digital exchange—cabling, servicing equipment and training programmes. It will also be re-establishing a plan for a manufacturing facility which it had not formally submitted.

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